A vibrant stained glass artwork depicting Jesus with his hands clasped in prayer. The central figure is rendered in shades of grey and white, set against a background of bold, geometric shapes in red, orange, yellow, and teal. The overall style is modern and abstract, with thick black outlines separating the colored sections. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

Peace I leave with you

JOHN 14:27



**Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 22, 2022**

St. Matthew

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CENTERED IN CHRIST

Celebrating Love • Serving All

Phone: 717-637-7101

General mailbox ext. 221

Email: info@stmattlutheran.org www.stmattlutheran.org

Facebook: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover PA

Instagram: @stmatthanover

Livestream Worship:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StMatthewLutheranChurchHanoverPA>

Please tear off and put in the offering basket as you leave:



Names of everyone attending Sunday, **May 22, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.:**



Would you like to be added to our email list? **Please list your name and email address:**





Welcome! Whether you are a long-time member of St. Matthew, a first-time visitor, or somewhere in between, we are thankful you are here today. If you have questions or need visual, audio, or mobility accommodations, please let a name-tagged usher know. We're excited about the many ministries of St. Matt's, and we hope you'll find a way to plug in that makes sense for you!

For Children:	For Teens:	For Adults:
Faith Connections	Youth Group	Choir
Children's Church	Confirmation	Bell Choir
Day Camp	Faith Connections	Faith Connections
VBS	Graduation Milestone	Parenting Class
Children's Choirs	Summer Mission Trip	Women of the ELCA
Bell Choir	Mini-Minister Puppets	Book Studies

About today: *We gather as a community for worship around word, wine, and water. Put another way, in worship we meet Christ in scripture proclaimed in speech & song, in the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism celebrated or remembered, and in community gathered together.*

Our regular weekend schedule includes Saturday worship at 5 p.m., Sunday worship at 8:30 a.m., Faith Connections on Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m. (livestreamed). Our Faith Connections hour includes opportunities for all ages to connect with God, our faith, and one another through learning and relationship. Meet at the Hospitality Desk at 9:30 for refreshments and more information about ways to plug in.

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

+ Celebrating God's Love - Serving in Jesus' Name +

PRELUDE

Easter Song
(Eli Swope, Soloist)

Herring

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

All: Amen.

Pastor: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, +
the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God,
whose rising from the empty tomb
brings to us the promise of life eternal.

All: Amen.

Silence for self-examination.

Pastor: In the presence of the living God,

**All: we confess that we set our minds towards things of death,
and not on the life that is revealed in the Christ.**

In our fear and trembling

we quickly turn from you towards ourselves.

**Our fear leads us to doubt your promise, harm our neighbor,
and neglect your creation.**

**Resurrect us O God, and bring about the new life in
ourselves, in our community, and our world.**

**Through the mercy of you beloved Son, heal us from our sin,
and give us the new breath of your Spirit. Amen.**

Pastor: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ + proclaims,

“Do not be afraid!”

Know that you are washed anew in his rising,

and your sins are forgiven.

Be at peace, and live in the everlasting love of God.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN.....*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!* – Alington/Vulpius



Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph
The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:23-29 *As Jesus talks of returning to the Father, he promises to send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will teach Jesus' followers and remind them of all that Jesus taught. Even more, those in whom God makes a home will experience a peace that overcomes fear.*

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Faye Snyder

MUSICAL OFFERING

The Solid Rock
(Adult Choir)

Bradbury/Robinson

TEXT: On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking ground.
My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.
When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace.
In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.
When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.

HOLY BAPTISM AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: 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

Each petition concludes, *“God, in your mercy,”* and the congregation responds, *“hear our prayer.”*

PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

(The congregation is invited to greet one another with the words “Peace be with you,” and gestures respecting personal space and comfort levels.)

Children return from Children’s Church.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

THE OFFERTORY

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

(Sing Twice)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Living God,

**All: you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

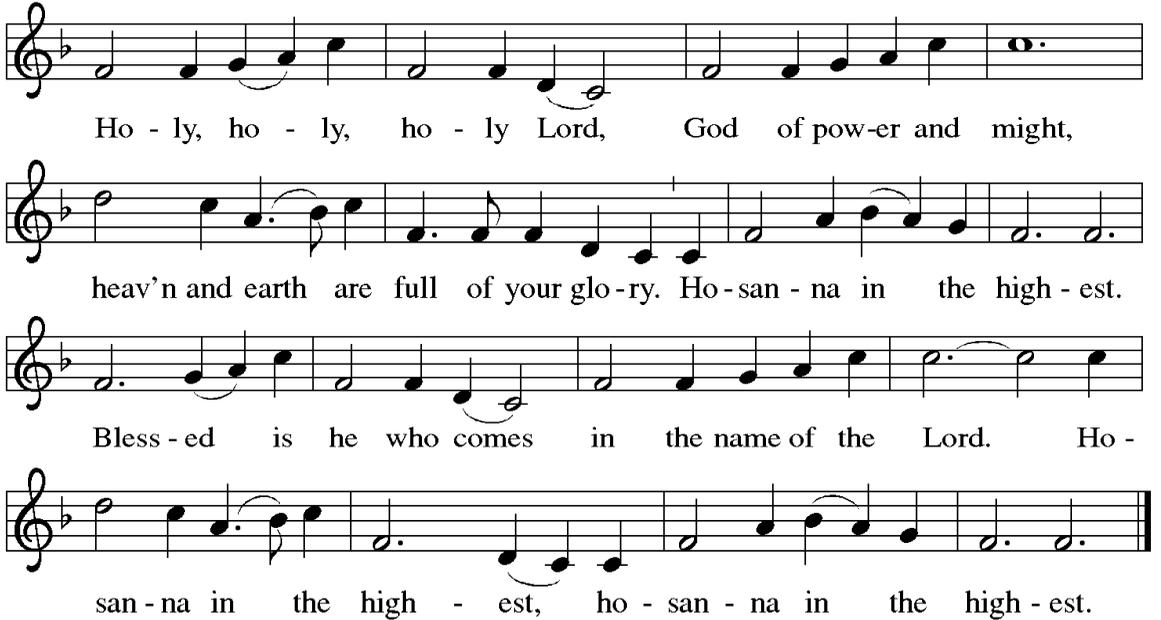
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

All: 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 AND BLESSING OF IN-PEW COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. The meal is served in a continuous manner. As you come forward, you will receive the wafer from a pastor. They will say, "The body of Christ, given for you." You will then eat the wafer. If you need a gluten free wafer, simply express your need to the pastor. You then move to the trays and pick up a communion cup from the tray. A communion assistant will say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you." and you will drink the wine/juice. (White grape juice is in the center of the tray.) There will be a container to put the empty cup in. Children who do not yet receive Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Individual packets will be available for those who wish to remain in their pew. If you are unable to walk to the front of the church to receive Holy Communion, please inform one of the ushers. The usher will tell those serving Communion and they will bring the Sacrament to you at your seat.

COMMUNION SOLO

I Stand Here Forgiven
(Eli Swope, Soloist)

McHugh/Fettke

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

All: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of love, + bless you now and forever.

All: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN.....When Peace like a River – Spafford/Bliss



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
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

With High Delight Let Us Unite

arr. Micheelsen

* * * * *

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –
Also #A-708989 *One License.net*

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Rev. Kathryn Vitalis Hoffman, Lead Pastor, ext. 231

pastorkathy@stmattlutheran.org

Rev. Taylor Berdahl, Associate Pastor, ext. 229

pastortaylor@stmattlutheran.org

Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Visitation Pastor

Scott G. Fredericks, Minister of Music, ext. 235

Tim Peck, Youth Ministry, youth@stmattlutheran.org

Stacy Parsons, Children’s Ministry, sparsons@stmattlutheran.org



Our warm thanks to all those assisting in the Sunday 10:30 worship services:

Musicians Eli Swope, Soloist; Adult Choir
 Altar Guild Deb Anker, Judy Porowski
 Communion Assistants Mike Jones, John Mancini
 Communion Preparers..... Penny Rutters, Linda Wheeler
 Couriers..... Tom Shultz, Bob Strangfeld
 Greeters Jeremy & Abbi Bucher, Martha Hempfing
 Lector Caralyn Mummert
 Live Stream Technicians Tom & Susie Shultz
 Ushers Team 4 – Steve & Penny Rutters, Dennis Koontz,
 Chris Raubenstine, Kelli Reed

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ed Aumen by his wife Pat.

THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM this morning is Gary Kyp, son of Wendy Castle. We welcome Gary into the earthly body of Christ with membership here at St. Matthew Church.

DEATH: Emma Bair

HELP WANTED! St. Matthew is looking for a part-time custodian, Monday - Friday, 4 hours a day, after 3 p.m. The person filling this position will be responsible for cleaning the church building and administration building. Duties will include but not be limited to: cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming, mopping floors, emptying trash. There is some lifting involved. We are looking for someone who can follow directions but also can be self-sufficient and will take pride in their work! Please send your resume to St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Personnel Committee, 30 W. Chestnut Street, Hanover, PA 17331. We have an application available to anyone who may not have a resume.

PLEASE REMEMBER to complete your registration forms for the **church directory**. Registration forms are available on the Hospitality Desk, from an usher and can be found on the church website. Completed forms may be placed in the offering basket at any worship service. If you need assistance with forms or pictures, you may call the church office or Mike Jones at 717-965-6680.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church May 22 - 29, 2022

Sun.	Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot)	8:30 a.m.
	Faith Connections	9:30-10:20 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	10:30 a.m.
Mon.	Girl Scouts	6:30-7:30 p.m.
Tues.	Cub Scouts.....	6:30-7:30 p.m.
Wed.	Boy Scouts.....	7:00-8:30 p.m.
Thurs.		
Fri.		
Sat.	Worship with Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall)	5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot)	8:30 a.m.
	No Faith Connections	
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave).....	10:30 a.m.

RECOMMENDED SCRIPTURE READINGS for the week beginning May 22:

Sunday: John 14:23-29	Thursday: Luke 24:44-53
Monday: Revelation 21:5-14	Friday: Revelation 22:6-9
Tuesday: Revelation 21:15-22	Saturday: John 1:14-18
Wednesday: Luke 2:25-38	

ATTENDANCE:	(05/14) Saturday	35
	(05/15) 8:30 a.m. Service	87
	10:30 a.m. Service	145
	(05/09-05/15) Online views	240
	Total	507

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO ST. MATTHEW CHURCH THIS WEEKEND

Fred and Mary Ayers

with sponsors Fred and Louise Kauffman

Amy Beck

with sponsor Missy Smith

Clair and Connie Bentzel

with sponsor Peggy Westerhold

Brett and Amber, Desiree and Jasper Bohli

with sponsors Drew, Kayla, Harper and Aurora Steffens

Steve and Julie, Jackson and Nicholas Hersh

with sponsor Brad Hersh

Timothy and Kathy Holtzinger

with sponsors Dennis and Karen Axline

Dennis and Marlene Jensen

with sponsors Kent and Anita Woods

Gary Kyp

with sponsors Michael and Denise Smith

Raegen Ross

with sponsor Mike Jones

Pearl Wintrode

with sponsor Yvonne Hughes

A Service Project for the Whole Church Community

Due to the tragedies occurring in Ukraine, **Lutheran World Relief has an urgent need for Personal Care Kits.** People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Personal Care Kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. The Kits also contribute to a new start for those who can return home.

The St. Matthew Women of the ELCA invite everyone to join in the bold endeavor to supply and create **279** kits to help the war victims of Ukraine. This bold challenge is marked by the 279 years St. Matthew has been a church. You can help in one or more of the following ways.

- **Give \$10 per kit** which covers the cost of the items and to help with shipping. (Financial gifts should be given to St. Matthew Lutheran Church with "Care Kits" in the memo line.)
- **Provide items for the Personal Care Kits.** You may drop off items in the designated boxes located in the elevator lobby or the church office. All items should be new. If you have access to Amazon, these items can be purchased in bulk.

Each Personal Care Kit contains:

- *One new bath-size towel (approx. 52"X27", dark color recommended)
 - *Two bath-size bars(4-5oz) of soap (must equal 8-9oz.), in its original wrapping
 - *One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
 - *One sturdy, wide-toothed comb
 - *One metal nail-clipper
- **Attend the all community intergenerational event on Pentecost Sunday, June 5 at 9:30 a.m.** when the kits will be assembled. All participants will meet in the Fellowship Hall between services.

THANK YOU! For questions, please call Johnnetta Miller at 717-637-4259.

TIM ZIMMERMAN AND THE KING'S BRASS



Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass will be appearing in concert here at St. Matthew on Sunday, June 12 at 4:00 p.m. Free tickets are required for admission and can be ordered by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: "June Concert" St. Matthew Lutheran

Church, 30 W. Chestnut St. Hanover, PA 17331. Please state the number of tickets you desire. The doors will open at 3:30 p.m. This concert is being presented in memory of Mary Moore.

Tim Zimmerman and The King's Brass present classics, patriotic selections and hymn classics and with a contemporary flair. The King's Brass features three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, percussion and keyboards. These instruments blend together to create a time of innovative musical experience that will be enjoyed by all generations. The brass will play several songs with the St. Matthew 14,470 pipe Austin organ which is one of the ten largest pipe organs in the world.

The King's Brass, formed four decades ago, is comprised of professional musicians from across the country, who desire to use the instruments they love to lead others in praise, worship and concert. Based out of Fort Wayne, Indiana, the group plays over 150 concerts per year from coast to coast as well as international destinations. Secular and sacred music critics alike applaud their concerts as "superb in every way" and "innovative and well played." "Truly, an unforgettable experience!"

This year the group is introducing their eighteenth recording which is titled "Christmas Joy." They have recorded a number of Christmas CDs, classical recordings, CDs with brass and organ, collections of classic hymns, and recordings of patriotic music.



Our preschool program is **REGISTERING** for the 2022-23 preschool year! All of the information can be found on the church website “Preschool” pages, or you can pick up a paper copy of information at the church office. Keep watch on the church website and our Discovery Place Facebook page for news about Discovery Place.

Thank you for all of the Pringles cans! We have enough for our project now.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: VBS is quickly approaching and will be held on June 27-29th from 9 a.m.-noon. It will be an enjoyment for the kids 4 years old-5th grade to learn about God’s ability to do the impossible through Jesus’ miracles. We are currently looking for volunteers to

assist in the following areas; leader for one class, registration assistants, photographers, snack servers, storytellers, and gym activity assistants. All of these volunteers are important to help VBS flow smoothly and make the experience for the kids great. In addition to adult volunteers, youth in 6th grade and up can also volunteer. If you would be interested in volunteering, please fill out the section below, tear it off, and place it in the offering plate.

**There is still space available for children to get signed up -
www.stmattlutheran.org!**

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

Place an “X” next to which area(s) you would be willing to volunteer

_____ Group Leader _____ Registration _____ Snack/Lunch

_____ Storytelling _____ Gym _____ Photographer



MAY FOOD DRIVE for Hanover Area Council of Churches (HACC) Provide-A-Lunch (PAL) Program - The Social Ministry Committee will be holding a food drive during the month of May for the benefit of the HACC PAL program. The PAL program operates 365 days/year, providing an average of 90 hot meals/day to those in the community, regardless of need. Since the onset of COVID, meals have been provided on a take-out basis to ensure social distancing. The PAL program currently needs the following items in order to replenish their pantry:

CANNED FOOD: Especially mixed vegetables (a constant need!), whole potatoes, vegetables of any kind, and fruit.

SINGLE SERVING FRUIT – The type sold in single-serving plastic containers, typically in multi-packs.

ZIP LOCK BAGS (all sizes)

There will be a large bin in the Gathering Place, designated for these donations. If you prefer to make a financial donation, please make your check payable to *St. Matthew Lutheran Church* and write “PAL Food Drive” in the memo line.

Thank you for your support! - *The Social Ministry Committee*

There are a few spots remaining at DAY CAMP!

- Dates are June 20-24, 2022, 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, Monday through Friday.
- St. Matthew will host children needing to be brought before the starting time and kept after the ending time upon request.
- Ages: children entering grades 1 through grade 6 in the fall of 2022
- For more information and to sign-up, visit our website www.stmattlutheran.org
- This Camp is hosted by the staff of Camp Nawakwa.

GOT A GREEN THUMB AND A HEART TO SERVE? Spring is here! You know what that means? Time for the garden — the Healthy Hanover Community Garden, that is. St. Matthew is seeking volunteers to take a one-week turn to help weed, water and harvest produce from our plot along Chestnut Street near the porte co-chere. All vegetables will support the Hanover Area Council of Churches, with extra produce donated to other agencies such as God’s Meal Barrel and New Hope Ministries. No real experience necessary but we are planting now so now is the time to act! If you are interested in helping, please contact Gail Mummert, 717-574-6992.



PENTECOST IS JUNE 5 - You may again purchase red geraniums to be placed in the Chancel to highlight this important festival for just \$4.50 per plant. You will have the option of donating your geranium(s) to be planted around the Church and Education Building or taking your plant(s) home. Please return the form to the

church office **by May 31**. No listing will be printed.

Geraniums for Pentecost

_____ # of plants

Total enclosed _____

Please check one:

_____ Use my plant(s) as needed. _____ I will take my plant(s) immediately after the 10:30 service.

_____ I will help plant geraniums around the church. Please call the church office before June 1 if you can help. The flowers will be placed around the church buildings and you can plant at your leisure.

_____ I will help with summer gardening (deadhead/watering) on a rotating basis.

Name _____

Phone _____ Envelope No. _____

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

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."¹⁰ 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.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,¹² 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.¹³ 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.¹⁴ 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.¹⁵ 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.

Psalm 67**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5**

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.

²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.²³ 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.²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.²⁶ People will bring into it the

glory and the honor of the nations.²⁷ 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.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb² 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.³ 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;⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.⁵ 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.

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

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.²⁸ You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

or John 5:1-9 [not printed]

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26.

Cover: Jesus, stained glass. Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Copyright © Godong/Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.