

May 29, 2011 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Readings from Scripture

(Please be seated)

The First Reading

Acts 17:22–31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the "unknown god" whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

A reading from the book of Acts

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' ²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Christians have a zeal for doing what is right in God's eyes no matter what the circumstances because in baptism we are saved and made alive. Thus our Christian beliefs and behavior are to be a matter of public record just as our baptism is.

A reading from First Peter.

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him

The Word of the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

John 14:15-21

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

The Holy Gospel according to St. _____ the _____ chapter

¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This 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. ¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of our Lord.

The Prayers of Intercession

In this season of resurrection, we lift up to God all those in need in the church and throughout the world.

A brief silence.

O God, who calls us out of darkness, illumine your church and all who serve it. Let your light shine in its mission. Lord in you mercy,
hear our prayer.

Illumine the gift of your creation. Let your light shine in its beauty and our care of it. Lord in you mercy,
hear our prayer.

Illumine the nations of the world with peace and prosperity. Let your light shine in the work of our world's leaders. Lord in you mercy,
hear our prayer.

Illumine the needs of the poor, the sick, the oppressed, and the dying (*especially*). Let your light shine through those who care for them. Lord in you mercy,
hear our prayer.

Illumine the needs of the people of this congregation. Let your light shine in our joys and heal our sorrows. Lord in you mercy,
hear our prayer.

You promise to be present in all our suffering. Transform the cries of those are suffering because of tornadoes and floods. Grant consolation, courage and hope. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For what else do the people of God pray?

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord in your mercy,
hear our Prayer

Illumine the lives of all the baptized (*especially those who have died in faith*). Let your light shine through the promise of salvation. Lord in you mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your care, O God, we place ourselves and all our prayers, trusting your promise of new life in Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

St. Paul's Prayer List ✻ Weekly update to the May Vision

Kermit Bergy – *Grandview Hospital*
Norm Benner
Len Garda – *Cousin of Gladys Sands*
Bob Mackon
Jeff Gruskaw, *Son In Law - F & D Lechner*
Gary Peterman, *Brother - F & D Lechner*

Sandy Roth - *At home*
Marianne Schatz
Dean Steinman – *Nephew of Ida Benner*
Kevin Steinman– *Nephew of Ida Benner*
Barry Troxel

Please look in the current edition of the Vision Newsletter for other names on our prayer list. The Sunday bulletins only list updates to the complete list in the Vision.

We remember in our prayers the family and friends of Dorothy Mohr. A graveside service commending Dorothy to our Lord's eternal care was held here at St. Paul's on Thursday, May 26.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Beatrice Shup and Lillian Bergey presented by family.

The Bulletin is given to the glory of God and in memory of the anniversary of the birthdays of Ralph and Amy Nace presented by children and grandchildren.

Capital Improvement Fund ~ We have currently received a total of \$64040. in our Capital Improvement fund toward our goal of \$225,000. Pledges amount to \$64,914.

Elevator Fund ~	Gifts Previously Committed	\$55,000.00
	Gifts Received as of 5.25.11	\$12,230.00
	Total	\$67,230.00

Elevator Project Update ~ This week brings the installation of the elevator doors for two of three levels , removing of temporary partitions on classroom and sanctuary levels, and re-shelving of storage closet on classroom level. We are waiting for the door frame to be shipped from Florida for the Fellowship Hall level access to the elevator. Anticipated completion date June 24, 2011 due to a delay in shipment of parts.

Lunch Bunch ~ invites our members, guests, and friends who have reached the age of 50+ to our gathering on **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, at 11:30 am**, in Church Fellowship Hall. You need to pack your lunch and bring your mug. Dessert is provided by our June birthday celebrants. We are a friendly group gathering in fun and fellowship.

Happy Fathers' Day to all our Dads. Our special men deserve a big hug, kiss, or a special prayer of remembrance for all they have done and continue to do for us. It is their day, make it a great one for them!

We will be entertained with the musical talents of Dale McCauley. Dale will tickle the ivory and sing great songs while playing. We know everyone will enjoy his gift of music and have a great afternoon. Come and enjoy Lunch Bunch and help welcome SUMMER!!!

Don't forget to save your Redner's Tapes. You must use the Save-A Tape Card and then bring the entire tape to Church or Lunch Bunch.

St. Paul's Community Emergency Fund ~ We have become aware of two families in the community who need assistance with medical and grocery expenses due to extraordinary circumstances facing their respective families. Both families are hard working and have not asked for any assistance. Any contributions to our Community Emergency Fund would be appreciated and will provide support to these two families at this time. Checks may be made out to "St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Red Hill" and placed in an envelop marked "Community Emergency Fund." with your name and envelope #. The envelope may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office. Questions, please speak to Bonnie Bonser or Pastor Vanderslice.

Vacation Bible School ~ look for our registration form on our website or in the information rack in Fellowship Hall. June 20-24th from 9-11:30 a.m.. Ages 3~6th grade. Volunteers please contact Bonnie Bonser. 215-679-5553 ext 125



An outbreak of tornadoes tore across the Midwest last week left a path of destruction from Texas to Minnesota. Especially hard-hit is Joplin, Mo., where a powerful tornado leveled parts of the community, killing at least 89 people. Residents say the city is completely unrecognizable. Please keep the people of Peace Lutheran Church in Joplin in your prayers as the face rebuilding their church building.

ELCA Disaster Response is assessing immediate needs in Joplin and other areas affected by severe storms and flooding. All of gifts designated for "U.S. Severe Storms" will be used for emergency and long-term assistance following these storms.

June 26 (last Sunday of June)~ Commissioning of our 2011 Appalachia Service Project team is being held at the 9: 15 AM Service this morning . This year's home repairs team will travel to Clay County, KY. Team members will include:

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|---------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Group 1: | Group 2: | Group 3: | Group 4: |
| Joe DeCarlo | Matt Stever | Christ Brust | Ron Rodenberger |
| Larry Weiss | Amy Stever | Gary Hager | John Sheeran |
| Jamie Mauer | Dan Elliot | Josh Hager | Christopher McKinstry |
| Lisa Maurer | Colin Smith | Katlyn Davies | Nick Hager |
| Blake Weiss | Kelsey Sheeran | Kyra Paul-Fowler | Justin Lesko |
| Emily Lachman | Taylor Pijanowski | Morgan Klavon | William Sole |
| | Alex Sole | | |

~ **This Week at St. Paul's** ~

Sunday	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Youth Group 8 th to 12 th grade	4:15 PM
	Generations Choir – <i>resumes in September</i>	
	Bell Choir – <i>resumes in September</i>	
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM
Monday	Memorial Day Office/UPCCC Closed	
	Praise Team Rehearsal	7:30 PM
Wednesday	Christian Education Committee	7:00 PM
	Alcoholics Anonymous	8:00 PM
Thursday	No Bible Study – Starting Wednesday June 8 and For the summer Off Site Bible Study with Bonnie Bonser will be at 7:00 PM only.	
Friday	Cub Pack Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
Sunday	Early Service with Holy Communion	8:00 AM
	Contemporary Service with Holy Communion	9:15 AM
	Sunday Church School	9:15 AM
	Late Service with Holy Communion	10:30 AM
	Confirmation Ministry	4:30 PM
	Generations Choir – <i>resumes in September</i>	
	Bell Choir – <i>resumes in September</i>	
	Narcotics Anonymous - <i>Fellowship Hall</i>	8:00 PM

~ **Today's Worship Assistants** ~

Altar Guild	8:00 AM	NicoleWalter	
Assistant	8:00 AM	Cheryl Weiss	10:30 AM Robert Walp
Ushers	9:15 AM	Ron & Diane Leister	
	10:30 AM	Floyd Treffinger & John Hinkle	
Monday		Charles Shagg and Tom Sands	