



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2026

Jesus of Nazareth does not leave his followers orphaned. Through the Holy Spirit, he comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in Holy Baptism and pray that, in our gathering around the proclamation of the Word and our Lord's Table, the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in

bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL. Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Easter Acclamation & Apostolic Greeting

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

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

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

☞ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

☞ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

☞ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

☞ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



Hymn of Praise

A musical score for a hymn in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of nine staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. [I] Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo- ple of God. [C] This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. [II] Pow- er, rich- es, wis- dom, and strength, and hon- or, bless- ing, and glo- ry are his. [C] This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. [I] Sing with all the peo- ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre- a - tion: Bless- ing, hon- or, glo- ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for- ev - er. A - men." The score includes various musical notations such as rests, beams, and slurs.

☩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☩ For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 ☩ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

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

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christ-following 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 the Christ, whom God has raised from the dead.

²²Paul 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."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66:7-18

(sung in unison)

This is a hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God who rules in majesty and delivers God's people.

⁷Bless our | God, you peoples;*
make the voice of his praise | to be heard,
⁸who holds our | souls in life,*
and will not allow our | feet to slip.
⁹For you, O | God, have proved us;*
you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.
¹⁰You brought us in- | to the snare;*
you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.
¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,*
but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.
¹²I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay | you my vows,*
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.
¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the | smoke of rams;*
I will give you ox- | en and goats.
¹⁴Come and listen, all you | who fear God,*
and I will tell you what he has | done for me.
¹⁵I called out to him | with my mouth,*
and his praise was | on my tongue.
¹⁶If I had found evil | in my heart,*
the LORD would | not have heard me;
¹⁷but in truth | God has heard me;*
he has attended to the voice | of my prayer.
¹⁸Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,*
nor withheld his | love from me.

Second Lesson - 1 Peter 3:13–22

Followers of the risen Christ are called to have a zeal for doing what is right in God's eyes no matter what the circumstances because in Holy Baptism we are saved and made alive. Thus, our beliefs and behavior are to be a matter of public record just as our Baptism is.

¹³Who 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse

(The congregation sings the refrain **(R)** as indicated.)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel - John 14:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

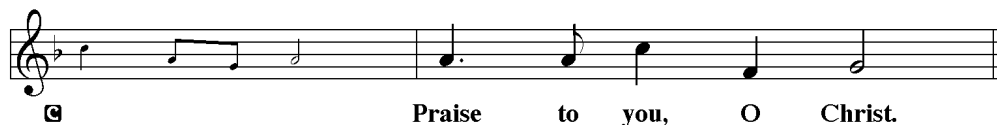


Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

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

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹⁵"If 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Roberts

silence for reflection

Hymn of the Day

Come Down, O Love Divine



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,
and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com-fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess his grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes his dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890
Music: DOWN AMPNEY, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Apostles' Creed

P: Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we believe:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

The Prayers

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: God of new life, you call us through the waters of Holy Baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the Church and its leaders to proclaim Christ Jesus' righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You create the world and all that is in it. Help us shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of counties, towns, cities, and nations. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You provide comfort in times of trouble. Help us heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You are love and you desire that we love one another. Inspire us to care for one another as you have first loved and cared for each of us. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who held tightly to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen

LITURGY OF THE MEAL

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Offering

Offertory Anthem

The Lord Is My Strength

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
(1875-1912)

*The Lord is my strength and my song, and is become my salvation.
I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of God.*

*O Lord of all, with us abide, In this our joyful Eastertide,
From every weapon death can wield Thine own redeemed forever shield.
All praise be Thine, O risen Lord, From death to endless life restored,
All praise to God the Father be, and Holy Ghost eternally.*

(Psalm 118:14 and 17)

Offertory

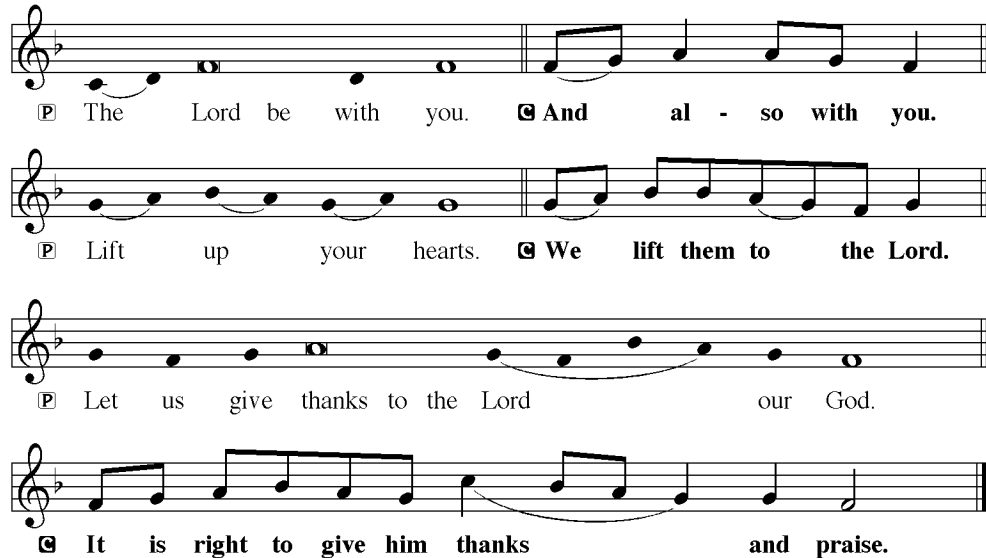
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

ALL: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving



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

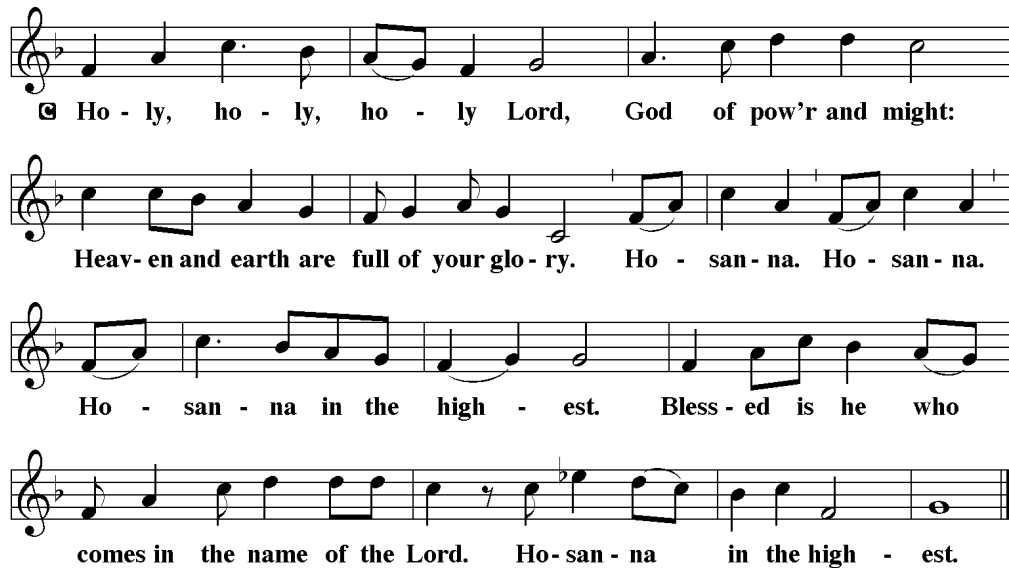
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

**C: 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**

Communion with our Risen Lord

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

Hymns

Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing;
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, gird on thy might - y sword;
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal prais - es be

help us to praise; Fa - ther all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
 our prayer at - tend. Come and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
 in this glad hour! Thou, who al - might - y art, now rule in
 hence ev - er - more! Thy sov-'reign maj - es - ty may we in

to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 word suc - cess, and let thy righ - teous - ness on us de - scend.
 ev - 'ry heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Text: source unknown, c. 1757, alt.
 Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

Children of the Heavenly Father

Truggare kan ingen vara



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

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Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: **Amen**

Post-Communion Canticle



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

Benediction



Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. **A - men**

Hymn

Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove



1 Come, gra - cious Spir - it, heav'n - ly dove, with light and
2 The light of truth to us dis - play and make us
3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing way, nor let us
4 Lead us to heav'n, that we may share full - ness of



com - fort from a - bove. Come, be our guard - ian
know and choose your way; plant ho - ly fear in
from his pas - tures stray; lead us to ho - li -
joy for - ev - er there; lead us to our e -



and our guide; o'er ev - 'ry thought and step pre - side.
ev - 'ry heart, that we from God may ne'er de - part.
ness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.
ter - nal rest, to be with God for - ev - er blest.

Text: Simon Browne, 1680–1732, alt.
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prelude in G Major

J. S. Bach

† † †

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Teresa Weinmeister in honor of Gretchen Roberts on her birthday and baptismal anniversary.

The candles are given to the glory of God by Don Carter in honor of his brothers, Bob and Charlie.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, May 10	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion and Rite of Confirmation and Home Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube and Home Communion
Monday, May 11	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class
Tuesday, May 12	10:00 a.m. Memorial and Fine Arts Committee 7:00 p.m. Church Council
Wednesday, May 13	10:00 a.m. Women's Sewing Group 12:10 p.m. Service of Holy Communion 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 14	9:00 a.m. Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
Friday, May 15	9:00 a.m. Strength and Balance Exercise Class 9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga Class
Sunday, May 17	8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday Church School 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube 5:00 p.m. Holy Trinity Youth (all ages)

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Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1000 Langhorne Road
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity

President: Deb Serio

Organist-Choirmaster: J. William Greene

Parish Administrator: Carol Dee Robertson

Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries:

Susan H. Williams

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