



**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024
10:15 AM
HOLY EUCHARIST**

Please note: This worship service is being recorded and livestreamed.

Many thanks to the Rev. Dean Bickel for presiding and Deacon Johnine Byrer for preaching at today's service .

WELCOME

PRELUDE

**RING PRAISE, O MY SOUL
COHS Handbell Choir**

MARGARET TUCKER

LITURGY OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE RITE

Please stand as you are able for the entrance of the ministers into the Church.

Opening hymn is on the following page.

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

All standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant and People say together

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

GLORIA

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,
 glo - ry to God in the high - est heav - en.
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,
 peace to God's peo-ple, God's peo-ple on earth.

- 1 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
 We worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
 You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**
- 3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
 You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
 With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Refrain**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

ACTS 8:26-40

All sit.

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 22:24-30

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
“May your heart live for ever!”
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
And all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
He rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
All who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
They shall be known as the Lord’s for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
The saving deeds that he has done.

SECOND READING

1 JOHN 4:7-21

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their

brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand.

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 15:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

DEACON JOHNINE BYRER

NICENE CREED

All stand.

**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 THE PEOPLE

All remain standing.

The Deacon introduces the prayers:

Risen Lord, fill our hearts with joy.

The Leader continues

Risen Lord, you announce peace to your disciples. Breathe into your Church the Holy Spirit. **Give faith for doubt and boldness to fainting hearts.**

Risen Lord, you announce peace to your world. Breathe upon the nations desire for harmony and concord. **Strengthen the fearful and all who seek to reconcile places of conflict.**

Risen Lord, you announce peace to our communities. Breathe upon our common life your generosity. **In your grace, open our hearts to share of our riches and poverty.**

Risen Lord, you announce peace to all injured, battered, ill, forgotten, and suffering people, *including...* Breathe upon all in special need your healing presence. **Anoint us all in your great goodness.**

Risen Lord, you announce peace in the face of death. Breathe upon all who have died your life and forgiveness, *especially...* **Bring light to the darkness of death and rejoicing to the place of tears.**

Intercessions may be offered at this time, either aloud or silently in your hearts.

The Celebrant concludes the prayers, saying

Receive our prayers as you have promised. Help us to follow your call, grant us your peace, and assure us that you are with us always. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence.

Minister and People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says

Let us offer to God the gifts we have been given.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY MUSIC COME, MY WAY, MY TRUTH, MY LIFE ARR. KEVIN MCCHESENEY
COHS Handbell Choir

Giving to Church of the Holy Spirit

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

As we celebrate the season of Easter, also known as Eastertide, we enter the resurrected life of Jesus Christ and the birth of the Church. The early church was lively, exuberant, awe-struck, and committed to spreading the “Good News” of God’s love for us as revealed in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. Church of the Holy Spirit continues this holy endeavor with the generosity of your time, talents, and financial support of ministries which bear witness to the love of Christ and enable everyone of us to seek and serve Christ in all parts of our lives.

As many people have shifted their giving to checks via mail, online or other electronic options, rather than “passing the plate”, we observe a time of quiet prayer accompanied by music as the Table is prepared for Holy Communion. Offertory plates are located at the entrances/exits of the sanctuary for your convenience. You may donate using check or cash, or if you, like so many in our congregation, have shifted your giving to electronic options, you may donate via our website

www.churchoftheholyspirit.us by clicking the “Giving” tab in the menu bar. If you wish to mail a contribution, please send your check to Church of the Holy Spirit, P.O. Box 575, Harleysville, PA 19438.

Thank you for your support of the ministries of COHS offered with thanksgiving in the name of Jesus Christ.

All standing, the Celebrant and People say together

Gracious God, we bring to you the ordinary things of life—food and drink and money—and in bringing them, we bring ourselves. Take us and our gifts of money to do your work in the world. Take this food and drink and from your table feed us with your love. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

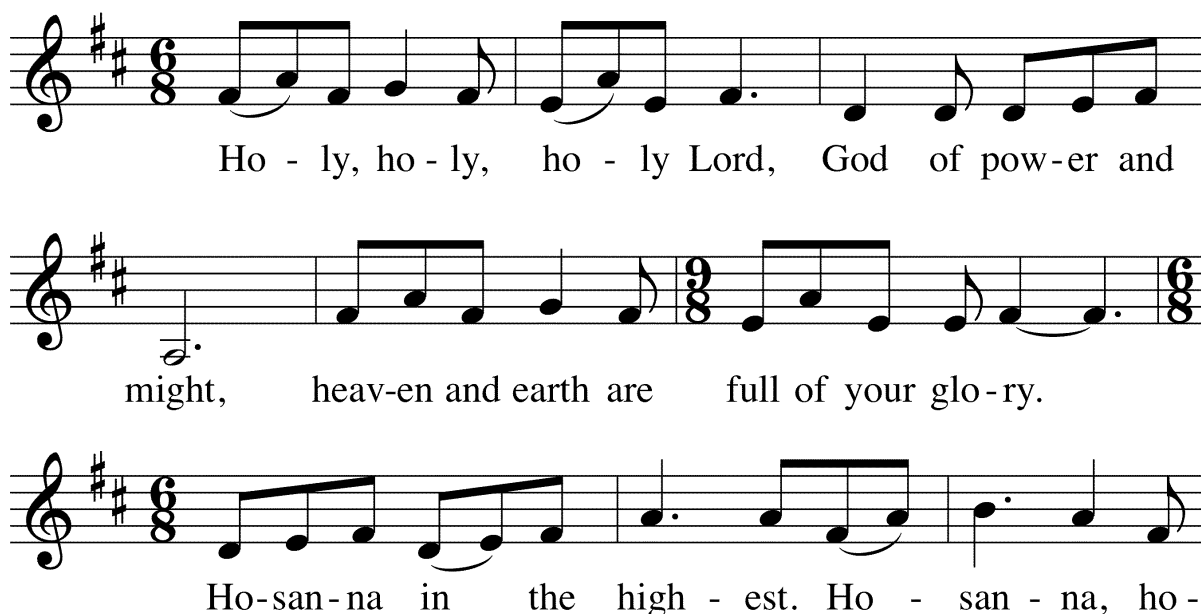
All stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from its bounds; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

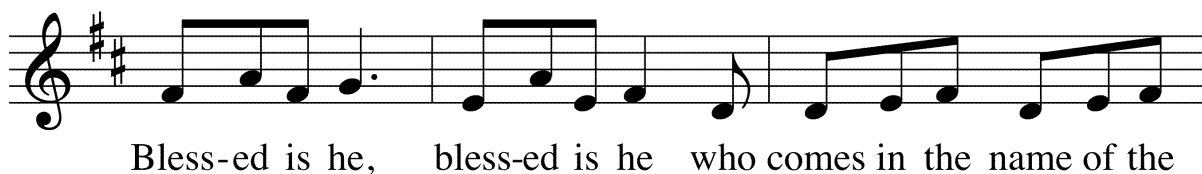
SANCTUS



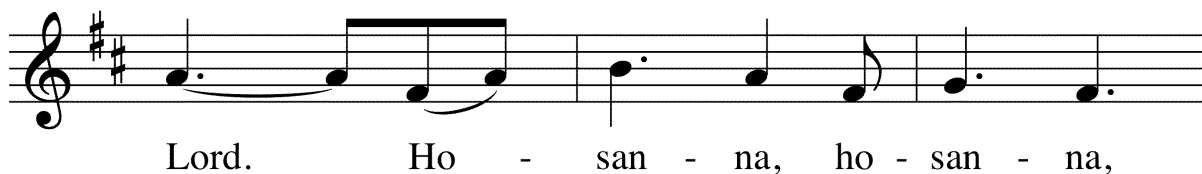
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry.
Ho-san-na in the high - est. Ho - san - na, ho -



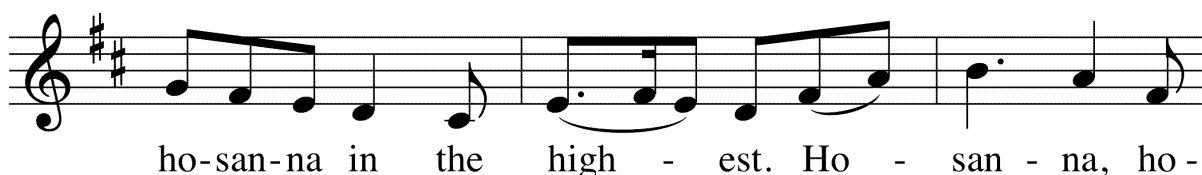
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na,



ho-san-na in the high - est. Ho - san - na, ho -



san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People

Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant then continues

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

People and Celebrant

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

This is Christ's table, and Christ is our host at this feast. Children of any age and people of any denomination are welcome to receive Holy Communion. The congregation gathers in a circle; the priest will place the bread in your hand. There will be one or two Eucharistic Ministers with chalices from which you may drink the wine. Intinction or dipping of the bread in the wine is not permitted. You may also receive the bread only at your request. Please know that you have received Holy Communion in full when receiving the bread. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you are unable to come forward, but desire Communion, please notify an usher. If, for whatever reason, you do not wish to receive either bread or wine, you are invited to come forward for a blessing only.

Healing Prayers and Reiki are offered during Holy Communion near the font. Members of our prayer team will pray with you and for you. Reiki practitioners are able to provide hands-on or hands-above healing prayers. Practitioners can also provide distance healing prayers.

COMMUNION MUSIC

YOU ARE THE CENTER

Part I



You are the cen - ter, you are my life,



you are the cen - ter, O Lord, of my life.



Come, Lord, and guide me, Lord of my life;
heal



send me your Spir - it, Lord of my life.
come, Lord, and teach me,



You are the cen - ter, Lord, of my life.

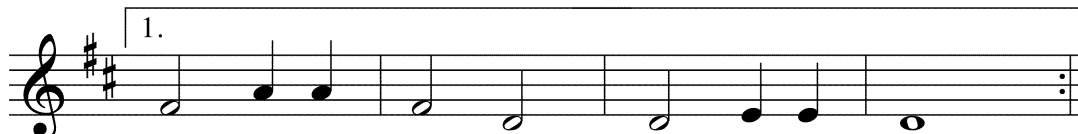
Part II



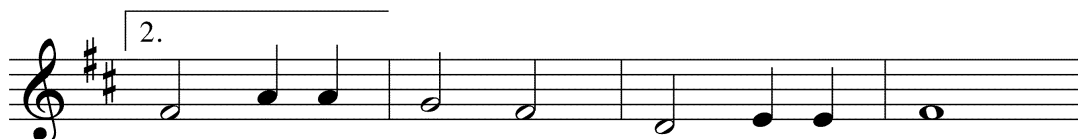
Give me your Spir - it and teach me your ways,



give me your peace, Lord, and set me free.



You are the cen - ter, Lord, of my life.



You are the cen - ter, you are my life,



you are the cen - ter, O Lord, of my life.

COMMUNION MUSIC VF 141

CHRIST THE VINE

Ecce Deus



Christ, the vine, and God, the gard - ener,



we the branch - es bear - ing fruit.



We can bring forth shoots of prom - ise



when our lives in Christ take root.



Christ, the fruit from Jes - se spring - ing,

Am F#m7 Em Bm7
 you ful - filled the pro - phet's trust.
 Em Am7 Em D
 And you pray that we, your bo - dy,
 G Am C D Em
 will ful - fill your trust in us.

COMMUNION HYMN WLP 765

O BLESSED SPRING

Berglund

1 O bless - ed spring, where Word and sign em - brace us
 2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain
 3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their
 4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our
 5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for

in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to
 faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
 heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will
 last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take
 this blest mys - ter - y: that Word and wa - ter thus re -

be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
 rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
 move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
 wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
 vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

After Communion, when necessary, the Eucharistic Visitor(s) will come forward.

The Deacon says:

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share in one bread, one cup.

After Communion, all stand as the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the people, saying

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTCOMMUNION HYMN 379

GOD IS LOVE

Abbot's Leigh

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
3 God is Love; and though with blind-ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

FESTIVE TRUMPET TUNE

FRANK GERMAN



TEXT PERMISSIONS

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MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY APRIL 28, 2024

	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
VERGER	Brain Ray	Brian Bingaman, Sr.
CRUCIFER		
USHERS	Cindy Benedict	Al Stevens Bill Work
GREETER	Jessica DeGroot	Linda Hill
WELCOMING SHEPHERD	Denise Lounsberry	Lynn Bingaman
VIRTUAL GREETER		Yvonne Caputo
LECTOR	Jim & Niklaus Druckenmiller	Kelly Lloyd Kent Lloyd
CHALICE BEARER	Eric Hunt	Gordon Muir
REIKI		Lynn Bingaman
PRAYERS AT THE FONT		Pat & Ed Spess
SACRISTY	Jen Wager	
COUNTERS	Brian Ray & Louise Beebe	

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY MAY 5, 2024

	8:00 AM	10:15 AM
VERGER	Ken Patrick	
CRUCIFER		
USHERS	Rob Young	Todd Greiser Al LaTourette
GREETER	Kathy Young	Lynn Bingaman
WELCOMING SHEPHERD		Kathy Clipp
VIRTUAL GREETER		Dan O'Connell
LECTOR	Eric Hunt	Brian Bingaman, Sr. Paul Bingaman
CHALICE BEARER	LuAnn Patrick	Kathy Clipp
REIKI		Louise Beebe
PRAYERS AT THE FONT		Eric Frankhouser
SACRISTY	Pat Fogal	
COUNTERS	Kathy Clipp & Emily Knorr	



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

2871 BARNDT ROAD
P. O. BOX 575
HARLEYSVILLE, PA 19438
215-234-8020
WWW.CHURCHOFTHEHOLYSPIRIT.US

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist at 8:00 AM Sundays (In-person)
Holy Eucharist at 10:15 AM Sundays (In-person and Live Streamed)
Morning Prayer 9:00 AM Tuesdays & Fridays (via Zoom Meeting)
Compline 8:00 PM Thursdays (via Zoom Meeting)

COHS MISSION STATEMENT

Church of the Holy Spirit strives to build a spiritual community that fosters welcome and seeks truth in love. We are committed to acceptance, honesty, joy, and adventure as we follow Jesus Christ. Caring and compassion run deep in this church. Through worship, shared ministries and prayer we strive to know and express God's message in Christ through the Holy Spirit in ourselves, our communities, and our world.

CLERGY AND STAFF

THE REV. JOHNNIE BYRER, DEACON
SUE ELLEN ECHARD, MINISTER OF MUSIC AND ARTS
DAWN HUNSDORFER, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
KAREN WORK, PARISH MINISTRIES & ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
SETH TRUMBORE, ASSOCIATE MUSICIAN
PATRICK WALDENBERGER, PRODUCTION, VIDEO, AND LIVE-STREAM COORDINATOR
KEN PATRICK, TINA MICHENER, NICK DUESBERRY, BRIAN BINGAMAN, SR. & BRIAN RAY, VERGERS
BARRY NORRIS, VERGER EMERITUS