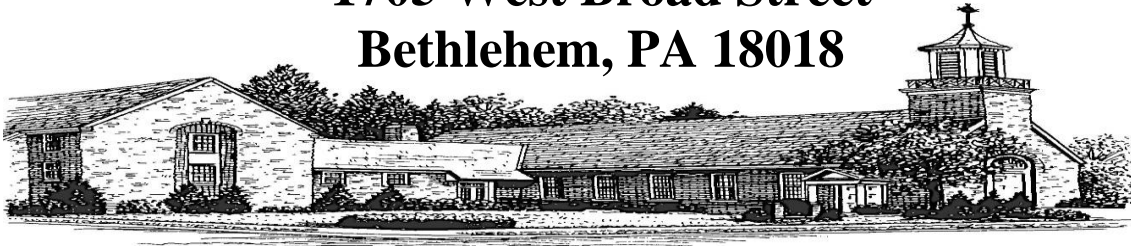


**BLESSED TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AT ROSEMONT**

**1705 West Broad Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018**



**LITURGY FOR THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MAY 18, 2025**



**A new commandment I give to you,  
that you love one another  
as I have loved you.**

**OUR MISSION**

*Christ has called us together to do God's Work.*

**Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont  
is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of  
race, creed, age, national origin,  
cultural background, sexual orientation, class,  
physical or mental ability.**

## WELCOME

Lector Peace be upon all who enter this house. A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are gathering here at Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont for the first time, or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together. Everything you need to follow along is found in your bulletin. Everyone is welcome to join us for a time of fellowship following the gathering. Thanks for the gift of you!

## LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

Leader For gathering today in this sacred space,  
we light the flame.  
For the opportunity to be together as a community,  
to remember the past,  
to claim our future,  
to be alive in our present,  
we light the flame.

*The altar candles are lit.*

*A moment of quiet.*

Leader Come into this gathering place! Come in and find peace and rest,  
inspiration and aspiration, fellowship and love.

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
– Paul Manz (1919-2009)

*The assembly stands as able.*

## GATHERING

Leader Let there be joy in our coming together this morning.  
Let there be truth heard in the words we speak and the songs we sing.  
Let there be help and healing for our disharmony and despair.  
Let there be silence for the voice within us and beyond us.  
Let there be joy in our coming together. - *Carl Seaburg*

Pastor Let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life.

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>Each of us has an important part to play in this world.<br/>And part of that is to know we need each other.</b></p> |
|---|

# GATHERING HYMN

## Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded



1 Day of de - light and beau-ty un - bound-ed, tell the news, the gos - pel  
2 Day of de - light and beau-ty un - bound-ed, tell the news, the gos - pel



spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ  
spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ



ris - en from the dead! Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap -  
ris - en from the dead! Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to



pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing;  
danc - ing; sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry;



sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the  
sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of



stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in  
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor



wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!  
last - ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

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# THE PRAYER OF THE DAY


Pastor We pray: Holy One, you call us to a new way of living, a new heaven and a new earth. Be with us as we strive to live out your love for all humanity, that we may be known for our love.

Assembly Amen. May it be so.


## HYMN OF PRAISE

### Now the Feast and Celebration


*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



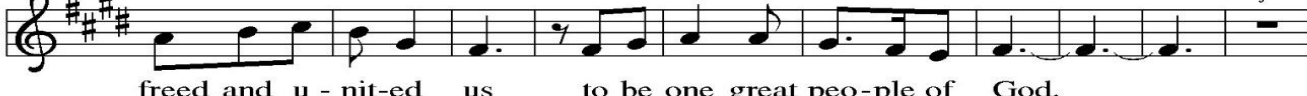
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has




*Refrain*  
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## EXPLORING

### A READING Revelation 21:1-6

Lector      A reading from the Book of Acts.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples,

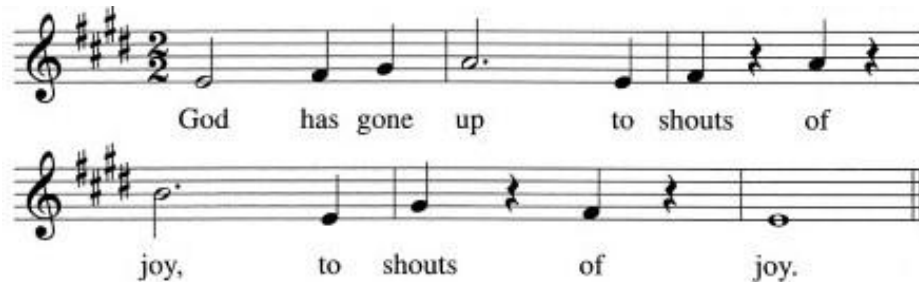
and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” 6 Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

### PSALMODY Psalm 148 Michel Guimont



Praise the Lord from the earth,  
sea creatures and all oceans,  
fire and hail, snow and mist,  
stormy winds that obey God's word; **R**

all mountains and hills,  
all fruit trees and cedars,  
beasts, wild and tame,  
reptiles and birds on the wing; **R**

all earth's nations and peoples,  
earth's leaders and rulers;  
young men and maidens,  
the old together with children. **R**

Let them praise the name of the Lord  
Who alone is exalted.

The splendor of God's name  
Reaches beyond heaven and earth. **R**

## A READING FROM THE WORLD AROUND US.

Lector      A reading from the world around us. *O Source of Life and Love*  
by Bruce Southworth.

O Source of life and love,

Torn by desires to sit back  
and to enjoy the beauty of the world —  
to savor the blue skies and gentle days —  
and by desires to recast the world and to fight its evils —  
to save the world...

Torn by all those things that hurt and confuse  
and make no sense amid beauty —  
yet supported by all those things that heal and hold us —smiles, kisses,  
mountain vistas  
and gentle waves, warm words...

We live in mystery.

We live torn apart at times -  
so much glory -  
so much pain.

We live in faith —

faith in ourselves and each other —  
faith that we can create bonds of the spirit  
that proclaim we are not alone.

We have much health within us;

we can live through the heartache to new life.  
So, for the grace of the world  
and all the tumble, too,  
this day we give thanks.

*The assembly stands, as able, for the Acclamation and the reading of the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**GOSPEL** John 13:31-35 (*Inclusive Text*)

Pastor      A reading from the + Holy Gospel as written to us by John.

**Assembly Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Promised One been glorified,  
and in this One, God has been glorified.

'If God has been found glorified in me,  
I will in turn be glorified in God's own glory and very soon.

'My friends, I shall not be with you much longer.

You will look for me, and, as I told the Jews,  
where I am going, you cannot come.

'I give you a new commandment:

love one another;

just as I have loved you,

you also must love one another.

'By this love you have for one another,  
everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

Pastor      This is Good News from the Lord.

**Assembly Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated for the Sermon.*

**THE SERMON**

*How will they know we follow Jesus? How will they know we follow him? They will know by the way we love each other. They will know by our love, by our love.*

---F. Thomas Lichner

We listen and we watch...In the cycle of seasons we come again to Easter.  
Out of our hearts we feel the urge to new being - to gather at the shrine of our hopes,  
to gain perspective on our lives, to reorder the chaos of our years,  
to reflect on the way our hearts should go, to reaffirm our deepest aspirations.

In the holy quiet we come: we want peace and that quiet serenity born of insight,  
we want beauty, the inner sanctuary of sounds and sights and air, we want courage,  
the inner fortitude to live our own lives. May we strive to be worthy of this great life  
that out of the old brings forth the new.

*The assembly stands as able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### God, We Gather As Your People



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -  
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be  
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and  
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.  
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,  
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.  
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we  
that they nev - er have a rea - son to  
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your  
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.  
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.  
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.  
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

#### *Refrain*



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

Text: David Lohman, b. 1961

Music: WELCOME BE OUR SONG, David Lohman

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*The assembly may be seated or kneel for prayer.*

**PRAYER** *Joys and celebrations, griefs and concerns are shared.*

Leader We are people of all ages who enter this space  
bringing our joys and concerns.  
Holy God, as you have touched us.

**Assembly** **May we now touch others.  
with your love in us.**

Leader And so we take this flame and light our special care candle...

*The Care Candle is lit.*

Lector We are people of all ages who enter this safe space  
bringing our joys and concerns  
for ourselves, for those named or remembered,  
and in solidarity with those who have not the freedom  
to express their concern or celebration  
for fear of discrimination or condemnation.

## **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*The assembly stands as able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Leader Let us pray together.  
As we bring our gifts forward,  
May our whole life move forward,  
In good faith, with good feelings,  
And with a good belief about the future.  
May what we give today, and all that we receive  
Be for the enrichment of our life  
And the lives of others.


**Assembly** **Amen. May it be so!**

Use your phone's camera to scan this code  
to give a gift to Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont  
and to view our website and social media sites.




# OFFERTORY HYMN As the Grains of Wheat


*Refrain*




As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



*Refrain*

may we share the pres-ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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## CELEBRATION HOLY COMMUNION

### THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Pastor God of splendor,  
your goodness sustains us,  
and your graciousness gives us hope.

Assembly May we and these gifts of bread, wine and money  
be used to further your way of love, hope, and justice.  
Amen. May it be so!

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor The Spirit is here. Lift up your hearts.

**Assembly We lift them up to God.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the God of peace.

**Assembly It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

Pastor We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath.

We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire with your lost and faithless people.

We thank you, Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself of might and glory and set your face towards the fickle crowd, the cruel empire, the faithful despisers.

We welcome you as God's own fool whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls. Therefore, with all who follow your way with the traders and tax collectors, the soldiers and prostitutes, and all who caught a glimpse of glory in the humanity you shared, we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



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

Pastor      On the night before he died Jesus took bread;  
when he had given thanks he broke it,  
gave it to his disciples and said:  
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.  
After supper he took the cup; when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood which brings new life;  
do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.  
Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our  
redeemer, we meet you in your glory.

## **THE OUR FATHER**

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

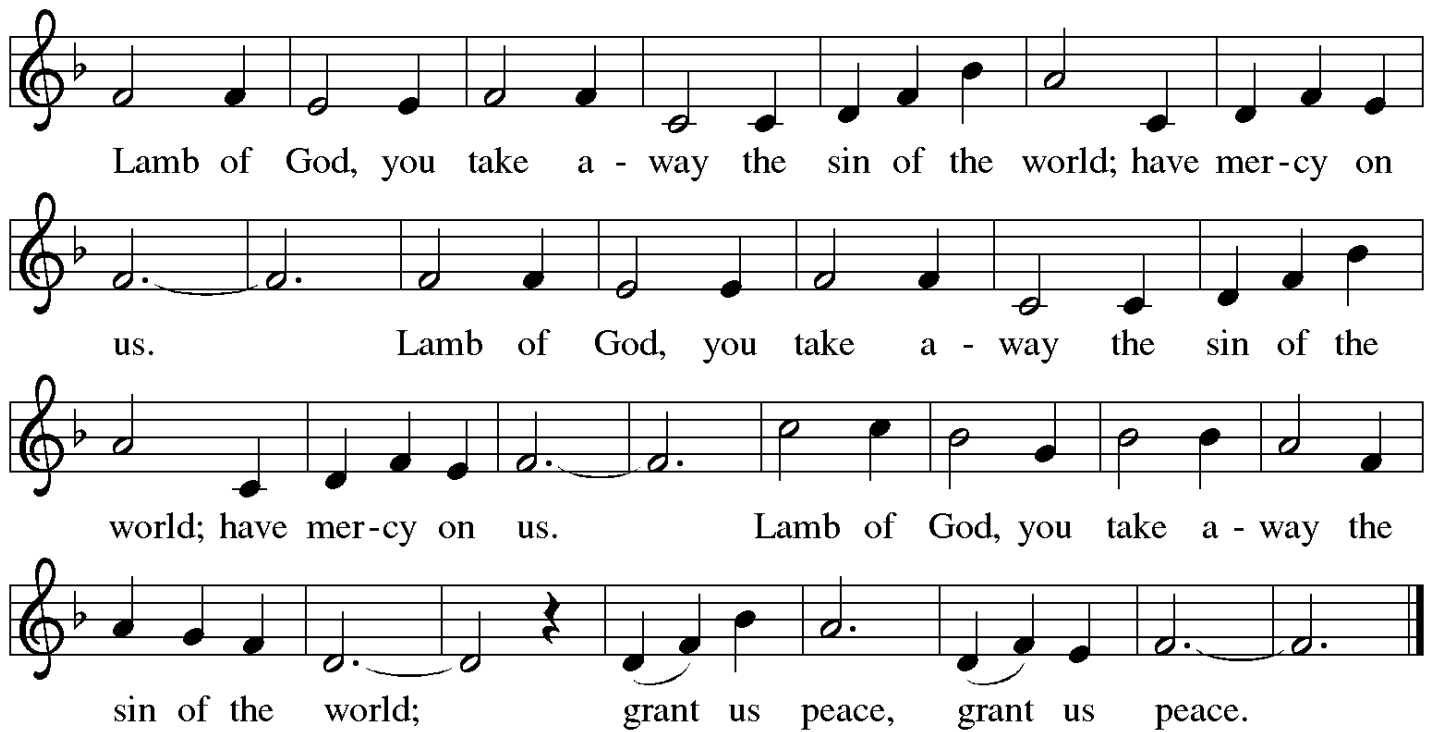
## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Pastor      The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
**Assembly   We, who are many, are one body,  
for we all share the one bread.**

## **THE INVITATION**

Pastor      Whatever your faith and background  
all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

In this Easter season, we celebrate that the powers of despair and destruction do not have the final word; that new life can still break out; that love is stronger than death; and that nothing can stop the life, hope, and determination of Easter people.



## HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

*Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace* – Hymnal 716

*I Come with Joy* – Hymnal 482

*The assembly stands as they are able.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader We bless you, generous God  
abiding in every part of the city,  
in each other, and in the stranger,  
who waits with us for a place at the table of life.  
May we also learn the way to make room for all.

**Assembly Amen. May it be so!**

## SOMETHING TO PONDER

We live at mystery's edge watching for a startling luminescence  
or a word to guide us.  
In fragile occurrence the Holy One presents oneself and we must pause...  
Daily, there are glimmers,  
reflections of a seamless mercy  
revealed in common intricacies.  
These circles of grace  
spill out around us  
and announce that we are part of this mystery. --- Kerri Wehlander, adapted

## SENDING HYMN Hymnal 631

### Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



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



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
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,  
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways 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  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in 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

## PARTING WORDS

Leader Time has now come for us to leave this sacred place.  
As we do, may we embrace the challenges  
of our lives and our world...

*The Community Candle is extinguished.*

Remembering that the universe is much larger  
than our ability to comprehend.

## WORDS OF BLESSING

Pastor And now may the blessings of life be upon us,  
and upon this congregation.  
May the memories we gather here give us hope for the future.  
May the love that we share  
bring strength and joy to our hearts,  
and the peace of this community be with us  
until we meet again.  
Go and may God's + blessings go with you  
and remain with you always.

**Assembly Amen. May it be so with us.**

**POSTLUDE** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* – June Nixon (b. 1942)

**THANK YOU** for worshiping with us at BT@R today.  
We are grateful for your presence and pray that you were blessed  
by the service.



**BT@R**

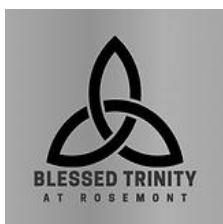
**FELLOWSHIP** Morning coffee and tea are now served.  
You are invited upstairs to Laros Hall to share in this time of fellowship.

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Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont





# Till We Meet Again

May 18, 2025 - Worship 9:30am

## This Week at BT@R

**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>:**

9:30am Worship

**Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>:**

7:00pm Scout Meeting (Lower-Level Hall)

**Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>:**

9:00am Christian Service Women  
(Community Service Room)

**Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>:**

9:30am Worship

Office Phone Number: 610-867-3705

The Rev. Jack A. Steltzer, Pastor:

[pastorjack@btrosemont.org](mailto:pastorjack@btrosemont.org)

Mark M. Suter, Director of Music Ministry:

[mark@btrosemont.org](mailto:mark@btrosemont.org)

Leigh Kukoly, Office Manager:

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Amanda Zaniesienko, Financial Secretary:

[amanda@btrosemont.org](mailto:amanda@btrosemont.org)

Debbie Dravec, Social Media Coordinator:

[debbie@btrosemont.org](mailto:debbie@btrosemont.org)

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Vice President – Ken Remaly 484-934-4532

Secretary – Bill Schellhaas 484-221-0246

Treasurer – Joe Bleier 610-737-6613

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Jeff Nelson 610-867-5909

Kenny Schaefer 610-867-7420

Maria Skrilec 610-849-2519

Paul Toub 267-421-8256

Dave Kolman 908-797-7460

## Today's Worship Ministers

*May 18, 2025*

**Acolyte** – John Faulch

**Altar Guild** – Fran Heslin,  
Tracy Schellhaas, Donna Kennedy

**Assisting Minister** – Karen Favinger

**Coffee Hour Hosts** – David Kolman,  
Pat Little, Dolores Kennedy,

Tony DeAngelis, Gina DeAngelis,  
Rosemary Leposa, Sheila Novak

**Communion Assistants** – Tony Villani,  
Stacy Stocker

**Counters** – Donna Machin, Tom Starrett,  
Bill Schellhaas

**Flower Delivery** – Christine Horoschock

**Greeters** – Tracy Schellhaas, Mary Bender

**Key Attendant** – Barry Sterner

**Lector** – Kenda Riley

**Ushers** – George Baltz, Mike Horwath

*May 25, 2025*

**Acolyte** – Joan Erb

**Altar Guild** – Fran Heslin,  
Tracy Schellhaas, Donna Kennedy

**Assisting Minister** – Joe Bleier

**Coffee Hour Hosts** – Maria Skrilec,  
Kathy Coffin, Carol Quirk, Kathy Gerhard,  
Jean Finn, Joan Erb

**Communion Assistants** – Bill & Tracy  
Schellhaas

**Counters** – Pat Little, Mary Bender,  
Dolores Kennedy

**Flower Delivery** – Christine Horoschock

**Greeters** – Ron & Sandy Horwath

**Key Attendant** – Barry Sterner

**Lector** – Helga Rimonneau

**Ushers** – Joe Novak, Glen Breidenbach