

SATURDAY EVENING COMMUNION SERVICE
MAY 24, 2025
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

Note: This evening's service includes communion. Please make sure you have a communion cup. Pastor White will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People.

GATHERING

Video: "We Thank You" – Rype.tv

Gathering song: "Return to God" – Marty Haugen

Gathering Words – Pastor Cindy White

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Sing and shout for joy.

God's light shines upon us.

Sing praises to God, sing praises.

Let us worship the Lord.

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

And also with you.

Let us pray together: **Guiding Spirit, you come to us in visions and dreams, showing us possibilities beyond our waking reality. Open our hearts this day, that we might understand Christ's teaching and share his presence with others. Guide our footsteps on our journeys, that**

we might go where you send us and share your message of love and peace with the world. Amen.

Welcome

Sharing of Peace

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Godsightings - Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD

Gospel reading – (John 14:23-29)

God invites us to learn from His holy word.

We open our hearts and minds to the wisdom God is sharing.

A reading from John: ²³ Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

²⁸ “You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.

The Gospel of Our Lord

Praise to You, O Christ!

Today’s message – Pastor Cindy White

COMMUNION

The Offering Moment

Song of praise – “Doxology” – The Vagle Brothers

Let us pray together: **Receive our praise, O God, for the bounty of your love. You cause the earth to yield food to satisfy the hungry. You send rain upon the earth to give drink to the thirsty. You shine light into our darkness to show us the way. Bless the gifts we bring before you this day, that they may touch the world with your love. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

“In Remembrance of Me” – Priscila Olesky and Mark Olesky

Here at the table, we see most clearly that we are part of the body of Christ. We are no longer divided into people of different ages, different ideas, different backgrounds, different gifts.

Here unique individuals become a single body, made richer for the multitude of gifts shared. Here, we feast on

one bread and one cup, and become one body in service to the world.

The preparation – Please remain seated

God be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

We offer our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, O God, for you are the Ground of our being, in whom we live and move. At the beginning you created the galaxies and planets, our sun, the earth and moon, plants and animals, individuals and nations, every substance and spirit.

You gave us your creative spirit to make friendships and families, art and music, love and compassion.

You gave us power to acquire the secrets of our mother earth, to honor her and care for her, as she cares for us. And so we join with all the creation that praises you, in every time and place.

God of eternity, spirit and matter all express your splendor.

We take this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Spirit we who eat and drink them may know a closer experience of your presence. On the night before Jesus died, he shared food with his disciples. He took bread, blessed and broke it, and giving it to them said: "Take and eat, this is my body which is given for you and for many. Do this to remember me," He took wine, blessed it, and giving it to them said: "Drink this all of you. This is my blood which is shed for you and for many;

do this to remember me”.

To God be glory forever. Amen.

We who are many are one body

For we all share in the one bread

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us receive this Holy Sacrament remembering that Jesus died for us, and hold him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Distribution

For those of you worshiping at home

Please take the host

(Pause)

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen

(Pause)

Please take the cup

(Pause)

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen

(Invite the in-person people forward for Communion)

Post-Communion prayer

Loving God, you have created all humanity in your image and likeness, and have revealed your plan and purpose in calling us your beloved.

We commit ourselves to you.

As we have shared this holy meal, inspire our hearts to see every man, woman and child given the dignity and value which is your purpose and your gift.

We commit ourselves to you. Amen.

Prayers of the People – Please remain seated

Jesus calls on us to follow him. Let us call on Jesus for the needs, concerns, and hopes of all peoples ...

Lord in your mercy ...

Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer – Spoken

THE SENDING

Announcements

Benediction

And all God's people say **Thanks be to God.**

Sending song: "Night Song" – City Alight

Thank you for worshiping with us this evening.