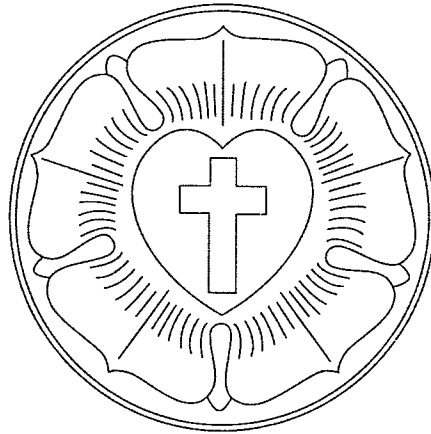


Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our Mission Statement

*"A Fellowship of Believers in Jesus Christ dedicated to
proclaiming God's Love to ALL through Word and Deed."*



1331 West Main Street
Ephrata, PA 17522-1313
(717) 733-6646
Email: office@salemephrata.org
Website: salemephrata.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024
10:00 AM

- P for Pastor's part of the Liturgy
C for Congregation's part of the Liturgy
* Those who are able, are asked to stand.
+ A time one may use the sign of the cross.

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (Green Book)
WOV = With One Voice (Blue Book)

THE FIRST PRELUDE "Thine is the Glory" Handel/Glyncannon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SECOND PRELUDE "The Holy City" Adams
Miriam Moore, Vocalist; Faith Shiffer, Flute

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** **LBW P. 77**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

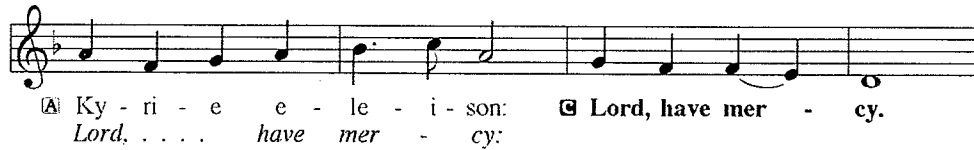
* **THE GATHERING HYMN** "With High Delight Let Us Unite" **LBW # 140**
(Green book)

* **THE APOSTOLIC GREETING** **LBW P. 78**

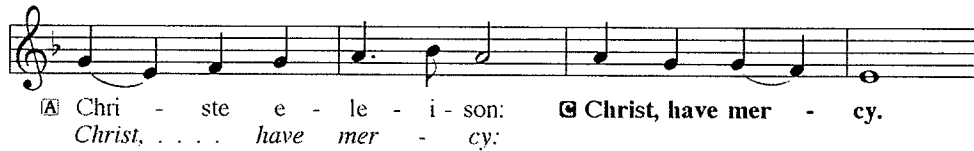
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

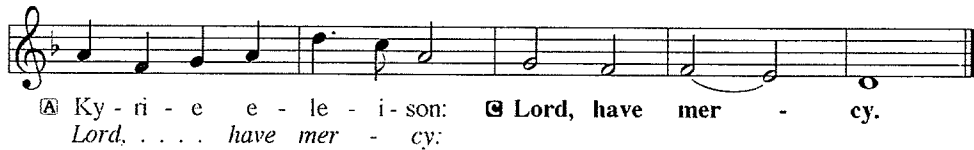
* **THE KYRIE** **WOV P. 28**



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



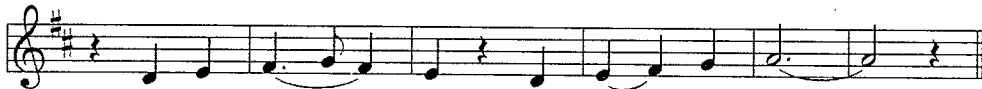
free to be peo - ple of God. ☐ Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: ☐ Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and



might to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men



☑ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



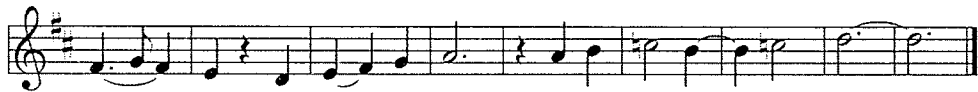
☐ For the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



☑ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A - men

*** THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² 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 before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way

rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea. (ESV)

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm will be read responsively

PSALM: Psalm 22:25-31

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,
shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 4:7-21

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the

Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother. (ESV)

L The Word of the Lord.

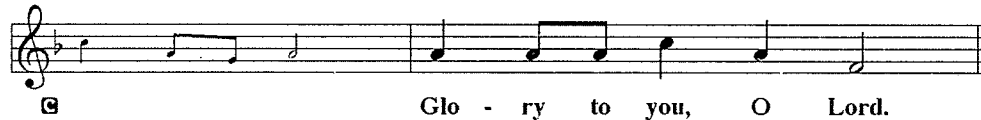
C **Thanks be to God.**

* **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"
WOV # 671 Refrain

**Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.**

* **GOSPEL**

P THE HOLY GOSPEL: **John 15:1-8**



"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. (ESV)

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

* **THE HYMN OF THE DAY** "Where Charity and Love Prevail" **LBW # 126**
(Green book)

* **THE NICENE CREED** **LBW P. 64**

C 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;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,

and was made man.

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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

* THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

* THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE ORGAN OFFERTORY "Love of the Father"

Paxton

* THE OFFERTORY "Let the Vineyards"

WOV P. 35

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 dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*** THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

LBW P. 88

P Blessed are you,

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** THE HOLY COMMUNION**

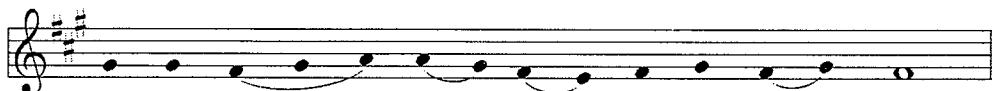
LBW P. 88



Ⓟ 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.

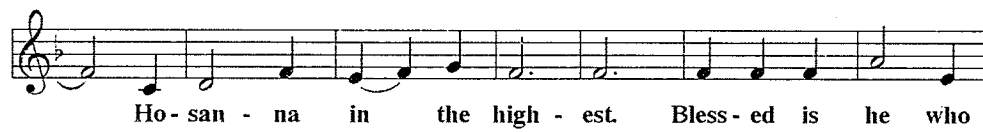
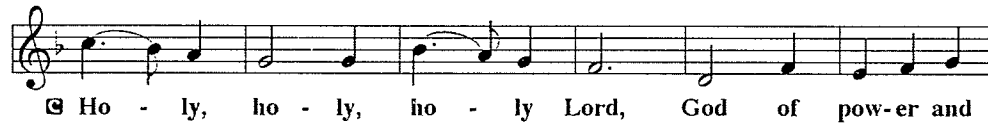
* THE PREFACE

LBW P. 88

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

WOV P. 36



P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;
you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will
and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving Passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought, but as we are able;
and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body,
and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, now and forever.

Amen

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

LBW P. 91

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

*** FRACTION**

*** THE COMMUNION CANTICLE "Lamb of God"**

WOV P. 39



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, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Please note: receiving in one kind (only the body or only the blood) is a full Holy Communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"
"Grains of Wheat"

WOV # 711
WOV # 708

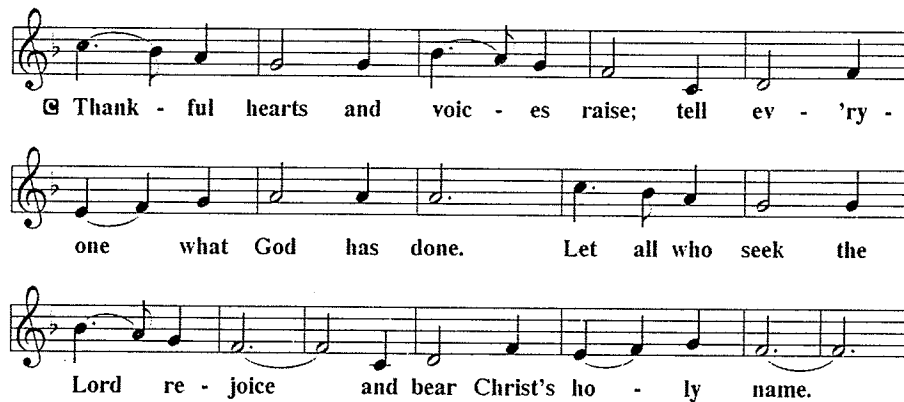
* THE COMMUNION BLESSING

LBW P. 92

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

C Amen

* THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Thankful hearts" WOV P. 40



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
 lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks-
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

*** THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

LBW P. 94

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

*** THE BENEDICTION**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen. Sing in a three fold form

*** THE CLOSING HYMN** “Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” **LBW # 363**
 (Green book)

*** THE DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.

C Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

*** POSTLUDE**

“A Joyous Acclamation”

Smith

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Keep in Your Prayers:

Joyce Doster, Cleo Frymyer, Marlene Haines, David Linn, Diane Morris, Paul Wechter, Ruth Winters, Todd Becker (friend of Mark Ditzler), Sylvia Fries (Amy Wilson's aunt), Jennifer Kuhfeldt (Laurel Kluck's niece), Mark Lerchen (friend of the Ditzlers), Dale Manspeaker (Judy Kreutzberger's brother), Decker Murphy (family friend of Ditzlers), Jerry Sheplock (nephew of Ginni DelPiano), Erin Viozzi (friend of Connie and Mark Ditzler), Gary Winters (Charlie Winters' brother)

Our May "Fellowship Sunday" will not be Sunday, May 5. It will be Sunday, May 19 instead.

Managing Motherhood

Items needed this month:

- Shampoo/conditioner
- Deodorant
- Body wash
- Baby wipes
- Baby wash
- Tampons—super
- Sanitary napkins—regular

Ephrata Area Social Services (EASS) May needs:

- Canned pineapple
- Canned peas
- Low sodium canned vegetables

Collection box is located in basket in east lobby.

Thank you for your donations.

Germany Trip 2025 Meeting

We will have our second Germany Trip 2025 informational meeting after church today in the Multi-Purpose Room. This meeting will focus on questions. If you missed the first meeting this is another opportunity to learn about the trip and get those details.

The Fellowship Committee will have a “Plant Exchange” on Sunday, May 19 following the worship service. You may bring house plants, herbs, perennials, annuals or vegetables. You may bring more than one plant for the exchange, and it will be helpful if you attach a small note giving information on the plant. Contact Joanne Stahl with any questions.

Praying the Small Catechism

Do you struggle with daily prayer? Not sure what to say or how to say it? Do you need encouragement to pray? Would you like to explore resources for deepening your prayer life? Join us as we look at how the Small Catechism may be used as a prayer book. We will also briefly look at any upcoming commemorations during the week. We will meet in the Multi-Purpose Room Sundays at 9:00 AM and will conclude by 9:45 AM. Coffee and tea are available.

Sunday 5 May Why Prayer? A Biblical exploration of prayer

Sunday 12 May A Tour of the Small Catechism as a Prayer Book

Sunday 19 May When to pray? How time affects our prayer life

Sunday 26 May Break

Sunday 2 June Commandments, Self Examination and Prayer

Sunday 9 June Creed, Gospel and Prayer

Sunday 16 June The Lord's Prayer-Praying against ourselves

Sunday 23 June Break

Sunday 30 June Sacraments and Prayer

Sunday 7 July Break

Sunday 14 July Prayer Offices: Morning, Mealtimes, Evening Prayers

Geraniums for Pentecost



Presented by: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

_____ Geraniums @ \$2.50 \$ _____

If you would like to donate a geranium to decorate the Sanctuary for Pentecost, please fill out this form by April 28. The cost is \$2.50 per plant. Place the form and payment in an envelope and place in the offering plate or mail it to the church. They will be planted in the church flower beds after Pentecost.

Greeter	John Keller
Usher	Chuck Rapp
Acolyte	Sebastien Francois
Lector	Stephanie Frymyer
Communion Assistant	Faith Shiffer
Altar care set up	Edie Sweigart
clean up	Edie Sweigart
	Betty Zimmerman

Sunday	11:15 AM	Germany trip information MP
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Worship Committee MP
Thursday	7:00 PM	Holy Communion

The Reverend Jeffrey H. Goodman, Pastor
Office: (717) 733-6646 (717) 725-0717 (cell)
Email: pastor@salemephrata.org
Church Email: office@salemephrata.org
Website: salemephrata.org
Theresa C. Lee, Organist
Michael Frymyer, Sexton
Jean Wilhelm, Secretary

Office Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:30 AM—12:30 PM