



*I am with you  
always*

MATTHEW 28:20

FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH

*The Holy Trinity* ✠ *May 31, 2026*

\*Indicates for the congregation to stand if you are able.  
Congregation responses are printed in **bold print**.

**WELCOME, and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Recognition of 2026 Graduates**

**PRELUDE:** Come, Thou Almighty King, arranged by Cindy Berry

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**  
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. **Amen.**

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.

Most merciful God,

***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.***

\*HYMN "Holy, Holy, Holy" P. 165

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Spoken)

***Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen***

\*HYMN OF PRAISE "Praise to the Father" (Sung)

***Praise to the Father for his loving kindness, Tenderly caring for his erring children; Praise him, all angels; praise him in the heaven; Praise to the Father!***

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 1:1—2:4a

<sup>1</sup> When God began to create the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. <sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup> Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. <sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. <sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. <sup>25</sup> God

made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

<sup>27</sup> So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." <sup>29</sup> God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup> God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. <sup>2:1</sup> Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup> On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 8

<sup>1</sup> O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

<sup>2</sup> ***you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.***

<sup>3</sup> When consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>4</sup> ***what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?***

<sup>5</sup> Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

<sup>6</sup> ***You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:***

<sup>7</sup> all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup> ***the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.***

<sup>9</sup> O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

[Paul writes:] <sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. <sup>13</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### CHILDREN SINGING

CONGREGATIONAL MESSAGE, Jim Kimmel.

HYMN "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" WOV (Blue Book) P. 684

### \* NICENE CREED

***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.*

**\*PRAYERS** God of Grace, *hear our prayer.*

**\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY:** Faith of Our Fathers, arranged by Cindy Berry.

**\*DOXOLOGY** P. 564.

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

(Sung)

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

*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.*

(Spoken)

**\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. *Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought" P. 501

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Please join us for fellowship following today's service. *The Christian Education Committee.*

**Website:** [HTTPS://www.thefriedenslutheran.com](https://www.thefriedenslutheran.com)

**Church e-mail:** [friedenslutheran4@gmail.com](mailto:friedenslutheran4@gmail.com)

**Designated Pastor:** Pastor Lee A. Diefenderfer, 1295 Red Dale Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961, 610-858-4136

**Council President:** Ed Tietsworth, (570) 292-1061

**Calendar**

Today, James Kimmel.

June 7, Carole Hepler.

June 14, Pastor Barry Spatz, with Holy Communion.

**Announcements**

Today – Last day of Sunday School. See you in the fall.

Today – Recognition of 2026 Graduates.

6/1/2026 – Scholarship applications are due.

6/2/2026 – Craft Faire Mtg., 6:30 PM.

6/3/2026 – Worship & Music, 5:30 PM.

6/10/2026 – Council Mtg., 6:00 PM.

**Prayer Corner**

Rick Herring; David Merwine; Terry Schwartz; Saralinn Grantz; Linda, Lee & Jared Kiefer; Robert Lettick; Elaine Carter; Deb Barry; Gary Snyder; Caitlyn Steppy; Tom Bixler; Jack Wehry; Josh & Dani Kiefer and unborn Child; Drew Hikes; Marvin Ruch; Irvin Lenker Sr.; Bonnie Artz.

**Today's Leaders - Service,** James Kimmel Lector, Scott Deiter  
Counters, Janet & Ron Radel Head Usher, Dave Henninger Ushers,  
Rodney Troutman, Ben Wetzell, Jason Wolfgang Greeters, Cindy & Rick  
Herring and Joan Smith.

**Flowers** – To the Glory of God by Julie.

**Bulletin** – No Sponsors.

**Summer Bible School**

Friedens's Bible School will be held from June 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 8:30 PM.  
**Vacation Bible is for children ages 3 (Potty trained) to those students who have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade.** The Bible School program will be on Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:30 AM. Please join our youth as they showcase what they have learned during the week.

**Volunteers** 6/7/2026 – Message, Carole Hepler Lector, TBD  
Counters, Christy Leiter & Melody Schwartz Head Usher, Rodney Troutman Ushers, Michael Allvord, Scott Allvord, Mike Deiter Greeters, Peggy Hand & Damaris Merwine.

**Attendance:** 35 (5/24/26) Offering:

May 24, 2026 – Current	\$1,191.00
Other	\$70.00
Total	\$1,261.00

Weekly Offering Needed: \$2,362.87

## Mission Partners

In Matthew 28:16-20, often referred to as “The Great Commission,” Jesus officially charges his disciples with tasks of teaching, discipling, and baptizing people of all nations and groupings. An assigned task or mission is the classic sense of the word *commission*. But what if we also considered Jesus’ charge to his disciples a *co-mission*—a mission together?

In John’s gospel, Jesus speaks plainly to the disciples about participating in, continuing, and even expanding upon Jesus’ work. Here in Matthew’s gospel, the resurrected Jesus declares his cosmic authority, having triumphed over even death, and then he immediately turns around to share that authority with the disciples. Their mission is Jesus’ mission: to build an inclusive community of compassion, mercy, and healing.

The work of Christ is shared work. We share it with one another, and we share it with Christ himself. The call to discipleship is always a community endeavor. In the liturgy for baptism, the gathered assembly affirms the newly baptized, saying, “We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God’s creative and redeeming word to all the world” (*ELW*, p. 231).

Not one of us is tasked with saving the world by ourselves. Only Jesus could and would bear that responsibility, and even he chose to invite others into the work. It is by grace that we are counted among Jesus’ disciples. And it is within the community of grace that we continue to proclaim and manifest God’s kingdom on earth, as it is in heaven. We look to our community of faith for support, assurance, assistance, and solidarity as we partner with Christ and one another to bring God’s good news to the world.