

The Churchman

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
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"Faith Active in Love"
www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

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We are called together by the Holy Spirit around Word and Sacraments to glorify God the Father, creator of all things, through our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God to nurture lives of faith and hope, as we serve and give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world.

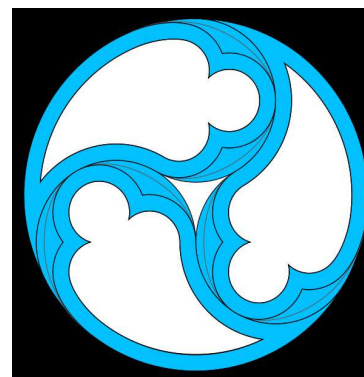
Adopted into the Trinity: Holy Trinity Sunday, June 4th



The Rite of Confirmation Holy Trinity Sunday, June 4th

Aidan Altavilla
and
Sebastian Myers

Affirming the Vows of Holy Baptism



We are children of God: the expression is so familiar as to lose its punch. Isn't everyone a child of God? Yes, absolutely, in the sense that God loves every single person with an infinite and abiding love. But today's readings use the idea of becoming a child of God in a different way. In baptism we become daughters and sons of God in such a way that we share in Jesus' own relationship as Son of God. We get to call God "Abba" as Jesus did; the Spirit who bears us is the wind that blows through our lives as it did through Jesus' life. (To follow today's gospel it helps to know that "spirit" and "wind" are the same word in Greek!)

Jesus uses the image of being born anew, born from above, born of the Spirit in the water of baptism. Paul uses the image of being adopted, as a Roman man might adopt a favored slave, giving the slave the status of son or daughter and legal heir. Birth and adoption are completely equivalent metaphors here, conveying the same truth that through the Holy Spirit we are brought inside the life of the Trinity, made to share in Jesus' own relationship with the one who sent him. The Spirit gives birth to us, the Father adopts us, and we are children of God just as Jesus is God's Son. And just as Jesus was God's self-giving to the world, we as God's daughters and sons are given to the world because God so loves the world.

We who are baptized live a Trinitarian life. The Spirit blows through you, and confidently cries "Abba!" in your voice, and you are sent as a sister or brother of Jesus to suffer with a world in pain and to be raised from every death by the power of the Holy Spirit.





The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.

PROVERBS 20:7



Iris blossoming on the church patio in May.

Images of the Season for Summer

Summertime. Perhaps you can hardly say the word without hearing, somewhere in the back of your mind, an earthy soprano voice singing the words from George Gershwin's opera, *Porgy and Bess*, "Summertime, and the livin' is easy." That's what summer is about—taking it easy. Schools close down, factories slow production, offices work with skeleton staffs. It's time for vacation, time to relax, ease up, sleep in, chill out. It is vacation time, whatever that may mean. For some it's travel—mountains or shore, down the road or over the sea. For some it's a hammock in the backyard. It may be catching up with the weeds in the garden or the novels you've been meaning to read. It may be swimming lessons or soccer camp or hot dogs on the grill or just sitting in the sun.

Most of all, summertime is about living. It's about having time, time for yourself, time to do what's important. Vacation doesn't require travel or equipment or expense. It only requires a sense of priorities. What's important to you? What makes you who you are? The answers to those questions will tell you how to make yourself new, how to renew yourself. And another word for that is re-creation—recreation. Vacation is about renewal, whatever that means for you.

For the church summer often means vacation, too, in the traditional sense. It can be a time of low attendance, low activity, low energy. Often it means that summer is when nothing much happens. It is simply a holding pattern, waiting until September when the real business of living will resume. But if vacation is indeed about living, then the same should be true for the church. Summer is for re-creation here, too.

Summer worship should provide an opportunity for renewal, but that does not necessarily mean that it should be easy-going or unchallenging. Our theological understanding of Sunday is that it is not only a day of rest but also, and indeed primarily, a day of worship. During the summer as throughout the year we come to church not to escape from the world but to enter into relationship with it more fully. Our worship should be asking the same questions about priorities that shape what we do with our vacation time. What matters most to us as Christians? What makes us who we are? How do we live in a way that gives us joy and fulfillment?

All of us need re-creation. Summer worship is a chance to discover what that means. Traditionally the readings for the Sundays after Pentecost have focused on the nature of faith and the Christian

life. While that might seem demanding for a summer Sunday, it is in fact exactly what summer is about: living.

Social scientists and economists tell us that the pattern of vacationing for U.S. workers has changed in recent years. The customary two weeks away in mid-summer is less and less common, replaced by more frequent but briefer breaks spread throughout the year. But whether we are on vacation or not, the longer days and warmer weather continue to make summer a season that is slower and more relaxed. The images of renewal and recreation remain appropriate for worship in these summer months, but those images also point to the need to carry them into the other seasons as well. One of the tasks of the church, carried out in worship and in learning, is to equip the saints for ministry. Just as vacation sends us back to our daily tasks reenergized, so worship sends us out to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the prisoner, and speak God's word of love.

Summertime. It's about relaxing, growing, believing, serving. Mostly, it's about living.

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Passages

Funeral:

A Liturgy of the Resurrection and Service of Thanksgiving for the life of +John D. Kozik+, son of Annette and brother to James Kozik and Susan Kozik Jones, was held on April 29th here. John passed from this life on February 28th in Boca Raton, Florida. Interment was at Woodlawn Memorial Park.

Baptisms:

Holy Baptism for Lyla Antinette Yamamoto, daughter of Benjamin Yamamoto and Shawna Brooke Bocek and Skylar Anne Skudrna, daughter of Jason Skudrna and Shawna Brooke Bocek was celebrated on Sunday, April 30th. Lyla's sponsors are Joseph Struck and Laura Bocek. Skylar's sponsors are Joseph Smutny and Kristi Skudrna.



June 2:	Ann Kasper	June 18:	Krystyna Ritacco
June 5:	Peyton Murray	June 20:	Jessica Barajas Clare Ruska
June 6:	Nico Tarbox	June 21:	Lana Papadatos
June 7:	Paul Drahos Mary Sordel	June 22:	Jillian Collins
June 8:	Linda Painter	June 24:	Johnathan Haase
June 10:	Betty Buffa David McShane	June 25:	Judith Cudecki
		June 30:	Rowan Smith

Anniversaries

- June 6, 1983: BettyAnn Mocek and Adam Walker
- June 7, 2014: Ashish and Kristina Patel
- June 13, 1992: Paul and Carrie Watkiss
- June 20, 1987: Martin and Ann Pennino
- June 21, 1980: Philip and Linda Painter
- June 24, 1973: Anita and Lester Henley
- June 25, 1988: Thomas and Vicki Michaels

JUNE WORSHIP SERVERS

June 4th:

Greeter: Carole Pollitz
Assisting Minister: Beverly Tarbox
Lector: John Kostelny
Live Stream: John Broussard
Usher: Janet Broussard

June 11th:

Greeter: Edward and Joanne Sefara
Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels
Lector: Fred Kuzel
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss
Usher: Rafael Martinez

June 18th:

Greeter: John and Shirley Kostelny
Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels
Lector: George Valek
Live Stream: Charles Matthies
Usher: John Kostelny

June 25th:

Greeter: Larry Crachy and Karen Kubik
Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies
Lector: Jane Lauritsen
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel
Usher: Walter Cudecki

Sacristan and Altar Care: Kristine Boike

A Prayer for Fathers

*Heavenly Father,
you entrusted your Son Jesus,
the child of Mary,
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all fathers
as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to you for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen*



Bleeding Heart Plant in front of the parsonage during the month of May.

Memorial Flowers

May 14th: In memory of dear mother +Betty Zittman+ on Mother's Day by remembering family Rocky, Tina and grandchildren.

In memory of dear mother +Celia Martinez+ and loving wife +Lupe Martinez+ on Mother's Day by remembering son and husband Rafael.

JULY WORSHIP SERVERS

July 2nd:

Greeter: Ann Kmet
Assisting Minister: Tom Myers
Lector: Charles Matthies
Live Stream: John Broussard
Usher: George Valek

July 9th:

Greeter: Sandy Garvey
Assisting Minister: Emily Bittner
Lector: Kristine Boike
Live Stream: Paul Watkiss
Usher: Rafael Martinez

July 16th:

Greeters: Ed and Joanne Sefara
Assisting Minister: John Broussard
Lector: J. T. Tarbox
Live Stream: Charles Matthies
Usher: Janet Broussard

July 23rd:

Greeters: John and Shirley Kostelny
Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss
Lector: Emily Bittner
Live Stream: Fred Kuzel
Usher: John Kostelny

July 30th:

Greeter: Carole Pollitz
Assisting Minister: Beverly Tarbox
Lector: Fred Kuzel
Live Stream: John Broussard
Usher: Walter Cudecki

Sacristan and Altar Care:

Fred Kuzel and John and Janet Broussard

Memorials and Honorariums

❖ For the Church ❖

Adolph and Ellen Heimann, in celebration of their 59th Wedding Anniversary on May 9th.

Beverly Podzamsky, in memory of husband +Steve+.

❖ In memory of John D. Kozik ❖

Annette Kozik and Family, in memory of son and brother.

Edward and Joanne Sefara

Lois Michaels

John and Shirley Kostelny

Larry Crachy and Karen Kubik

Tom and Vicki Michaels

Ann Kmet



DATED MATERIAL

Lux Cantorum Chicago Celebrates Anniversary Season with “Celestial Theater”



Lux Cantorum Chicago celebrated its 75th Anniversary with Sts. Peter and Paul on Sunday, May 7th, in a performance of “Celestial Theater” followed by a reception hosted by members of the congregation. The decorative and delicious cakes were provided by Kathi and Jim Zinsser.

A Poem for Good Shepherd Sunday

The 4th Sunday of Easter, April 30th. By Andrew King

There is a place we can find, a good place
like quiet meadows where flowers spread,
like green grasses by gentle streams;
a place where the heart feels nourished,
where the mind is hopeful, unhurried,
where the spirit is glad and at peace.
We'll name this place fulfillment,
we'll name it healing and thankfulness,
we'll name this good place pasture
for there we seek to feed.

And there is a voice we can hear that calls us,
a gentle voice, melodious,
a voice like songbirds and laughter,
like a mother comforting her children,
like a shepherd calling his sheep.
We'll name this voice acceptance,
we'll name it mercy and forgiveness,
we'll name it the voice of God's love,
inviting us gently to feed.

It invites us to enter pasture
when we think we're too hurting to listen,
too angry or grieving or fearful
to hear the voice that calls us to peace.

It invites us to enter pasture
when we're sure we're too busy to listen,
too burdened or worried or pressured
to hear the voice that calls us to peace.

It says: Come in and go out and find pasture.
It says: We are safe with the shepherd of all sheep.
It says: Meadows await us, in this moment.
It says: Rest in love. Where you are. Joyfully feed.

THANK YOU to those who helped in any way with hosting the reception following the concert at Sts. Peter and Paul on Sunday, May 7th, including Vera Borysek, Chris Gernand (coordinator), Gianna Lauritsen, Jane Lauritsen (coordinator), Vicki and Tom Michaels, Linda Painter, Carole Pollitz, Carrie Watkiss, and Kathi and Jim Zinsser for again providing the delicious homemade cakes! Thanks also to those helped with decorating, set-up and take-down of the dining hall furnishings. Acknowledgments are extended to Aunt Diana's Old Fashioned Fudge in Riverside and Rose's Catering. Our gratitude is also offered to Thrivent Financial and individual households for providing a grant and gifts to fund the reception.