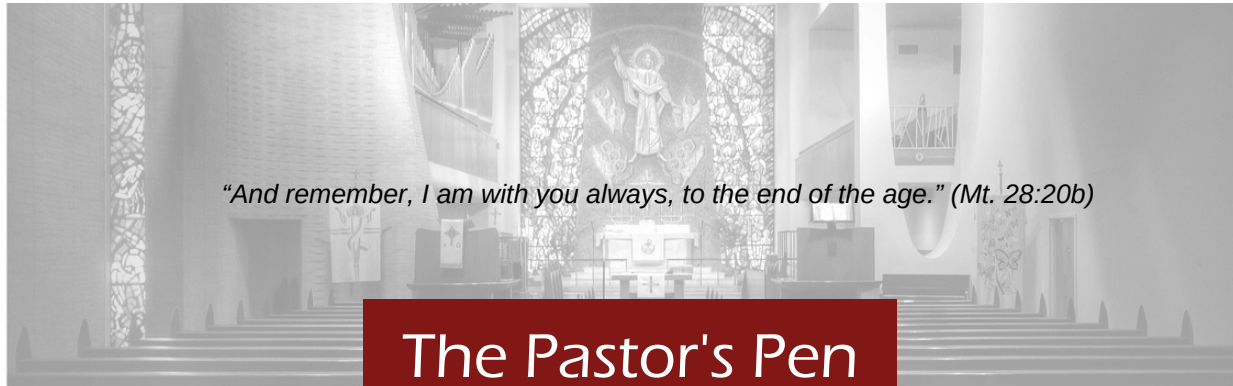


ReMarks

June 2026

St. Mark's Lutheran Church



"And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Mt. 28:20b)

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends in Christ,

Holy Trinity Sunday marks the start of a season known simply as Ordinary Time or Sundays after Pentecost. This season of the church year was also once known as "The Trinity Season" because, baptized in the triune name, we are Christ's body, the church, bearing God's love for all the world in the ordinary times of our lives.

In baptism, we each begin a journey that ends not in death but continues into eternal life. We journey traveling within the "Big Picture" of God's time and eternity. To be baptized is to know that Jesus is with you to the end of time. Every day, in ordinary things, your life story is being painted on the larger canvas of God's eternity. Faith helps us trust that Jesus is with us to the end of the age, and that our lives are an important part of God's salvation story.

Baptized, we live in the name of the Holy Trinity. Led by the Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus, seeking to do the will of the Father. Discipleship is not simply "membership" in a local church, it is the costly "discipleship" of self-denial – of following Jesus in God's salvation story – so that through us, God might reveal steadfast love, peace, and welcome for all.

The Holy Trinity reminds us that our lives are lived within the everyday. Just as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit share everything, yet work separately, we too, in the ordinary things of life, enjoy fellowship in shared meals, ongoing relationships, and individual responsibilities. Our lives are an extension of the life of the triune God.

To be baptized in the triune name is to be conscious that the "Big Things" of God happen in seemingly insignificant and everyday moments of life. We journey in this world never completely at home, always restless for God's eternity.

As you ease into the summer months, how is God calling you to live out the hope that is within you? How do you see your life in God's larger picture? He is with you to the end of the age in the small and ordinary moments of life so that others might know his eternity in you.

In the fellowship of the gospel,
Pastor Timothy McKenzie

May Council Highlights

St. Mark's Congregation Council Meeting Summary

Date: May 10, 2026

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Charles Lakeman. The meeting opened with a devotion focused on the importance of intentional stillness as sacred time with God. The previous meeting minutes were approved. No formal financial report was presented, though updates are expected next month as reporting processes are further established.

Pastor Tim shared updates including recognition of the church's \$50,000 benevolence gift, recent memorial and committal services, and ongoing ministry and community engagement. He also highlighted strong progress on the Fellowship Hall renovation, including active fundraising and stage construction, as well as property updates such as courtyard improvements and nearby rezoning developments. Pastor Ali provided updates on worship leadership, family ministry planning (including a June retreat and new programming), Safe Gatherings training, and upcoming events such as Young Families Day and Senior Sunday.

In new business, the Council reviewed the status of the Fellowship Hall renovation, noting that flooring installation is expected within the next three weeks and that AV contractor responses remain pending. Fundraising totals currently reflect \$138,870 pledged, with \$61,633 received to date. Charles Lakeman emphasized the Council's role as a visionary body, encouraging members to actively shape strategic goals and increase engagement beyond monthly meetings. Additional updates included plans to film Pentecost services for the church website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM with a closing prayer.

Submitted by Virginia Molan, Council Secretary

Fellowship Hall Renovation



Thank you to all who have pledged and given toward the Fellowship Hall Renovation Project. Each gift is important in helping us achieve our goal — a goal not simply of a monetary amount, but of a completely transformed Fellowship Hall.

So far we have repainted the hall and stage, rewired for LED lighting, re-stained and refinished the doors and the stage, removed the old floor with asbestos, and installed a new luxury vinyl tile floor throughout.

Upcoming work includes the purchase of new circular tables, new stackable chairs, and a new audio video system. We are making great progress!

Because of your generosity, we have reached nearly \$145,000 of our \$120,000 goal. Because there have been unexpected repairs and will likely be additional costs, we will likely use all of this amount. We are very grateful for the generosity of all who have contributed to this project. Thank you!

Please remember that the deadline to pay pledges is June 1st.

Around St. Mark's

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." (Colossians 3:16)

Fellowship Hall Renovation Update



During May the Fellowship Hall was under construction. The stage area and cabinets were repainted, and stage floor sanded, stained, and refinished.



Floor installation began on May 19th, with waterproofing and a latex skim coat applied to level and prepare the concrete floor for new flooring installation. The hall in front of the kitchen was the staging area.

The result can be seen in the photos below and to the right. The kitchen hall, old scout room, rear hallway, and Fellowship Hall have a new look with new flooring. Thank you!



Around St. Mark's

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." (Colossians 3:16)

Japanese Service May 10



On May 10, Pastor Tim and Mari attended an ecumenical Japanese language service at Light of Christ UMC in Charlotte. Pastor Iwao Peter Satoh, a pastor from Lexington KY led the service and Pastor Tim also gave a sermon in Japanese for youth.

Senior Sunday May 31



On Holy Trinity Sunday, 5/31, graduating high school senior Riley Smith witnessed to us of his faith, and we gathered around him and his parents, thanking God for his gifts by sending him into the next chapter of his life. After worship, we enjoyed a cake reception.



Pastor Ali at West Ohio Conference

Synod Gathering May 28



Pastor Tim and John Simon attended the NC Synod Gathering at Lenoir-Rhyne University to worship, learn, and fellowship with sisters and brothers from all parts of the synod. Bishop Emily Hartner spoke about our life together as a church and as a synod.



Pastor Ali attended the West Ohio Annual Conference of the UMC held at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio, May 27-30. She served as the "Enlivener," encouraging hymn singing and worship during times of worship at the Conference. Pastor Ali is an ordained Elder in the UMC, the equivalent of a pastor in the ELCA, and holds membership in the West Ohio Conference. She attended this event as part of her ongoing membership in that ministerium. We are blessed to have Pastor Ali serving with us!

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Bach Charlotte Concerts at St. Mark's



The graphic features the St. Mark's logo (a cherub) and the text "ST. MARK'S @ ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH". The main title "BACH" is in large, bold letters, with "CHARLOTTE • BACH FESTIVAL" and "MAY 28-JUNE 7, 2026" below it. A QR code is on the right with the text "St. Mark's Members half off tickets at the door". Four vertical panels show portraits of performers with their respective concert details:

- DALL'ITALIA CON AMORE**
GUY FISHMAN AND FRIENDS
TUESDAY, JUNE 2
7:30 PM
- BACH & THE FRENCH INFLUENCE**
AISSLIN NOSKY SARAH STONE AND FRIENDS
THURSDAY, JUNE 4
7:30 PM
- ECHOES OF BACH**
EMI FERGUSON GUY FISHMAN ESTHER JEEHAE AHN
FRIDAY, JUNE 5
7:30 PM
- ORGAN RECITAL LESTER ACKERMAN**
SUNDAY, JUNE 7
3:00 PM

Sullenberger Aviation Museum Visit

Sullenberger Aviation Museum visit: we are setting up a visit to the Sullenberger Aviation Museum at Charlotte Douglas International Airport. The date is Saturday, June 13, 2026. This event is open to all members of St. Marks.

That day will meet at the church at 8:45 am for coffee, donuts and an introductory discussion about the museum in general and specifically about the "Miracle on the Hudson" crash of US Air flight 1549 into the Hudson River. Through our members, Rob and Susan Johnson, we are able to invite a crash survivor, Mr. Jay McDonald, to join us to discuss his experience and thoughts about that day and join us in the museum visit. We will leave from the church at about 9:30 AM and drive (car pool if possible) to the museum to start the tour when they open at 10 AM.

We anticipate the museum walk-through taking about 1-1/2 hours.

Please use the following Sign-up Genius link to get your name on the list and to reserve a spot (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-63869003-sullenberger>). If you prefer, you can call Sue in the church office at 704-375-9185 who will make a reservation for you. Questions? Call or text Mike Doyne at 704-904-1812 and leave a message.

Tickets are \$21 for seniors and \$25 for all others.

Please note that there will be no Men's Group meeting this June.

Congregational Life

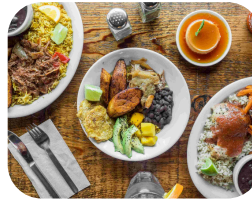
Ethnic Restaurant Group

The Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at Azucar Cuban Restaurant in Ballantyne on June 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM. The address is 14825 Ballantyne Village Way #150, Charlotte, NC 28277.

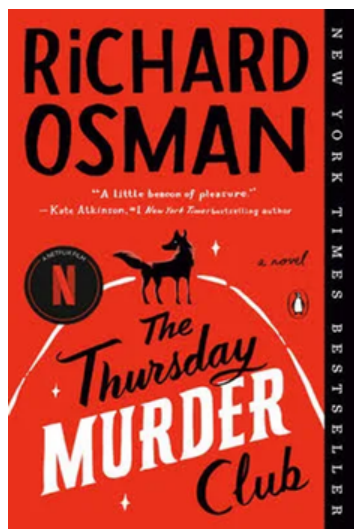
Azucar has a lively ambience with a wide selection of Cuban specialties. They toast their Cuban sandwiches to perfection. Their salads are filled with variety and color and arrive crisp and fresh. On Tuesday they may even have live music, discounted libations, and special pricing on "dinners for 2".

Azucar is in the strip of shops with their backdoors to Ballantyne Commons Parkway. Parking is available in front of the restaurant and along all adjacent streets.

Easy access from all points east may be to go west on Ballantyne Commons Parkway from Johnston Road; turn left at the first traffic light (Durant Blvd); turn left when Durant "T"s into Costigan Lane. You may access the parking deck by turning right (Ballantyne Village Way) and U-turning for its entrance. Street-level parking in front of Azucar is on the right after passing the Hestia Building. Don't go too far or you'll be back on Ballantyne Commons Parkway.



This gathering will be lively and fun-filled. Do try to make room in your calendars to attend. While you are at it, invite a friend, neighbor, visiting relative, or someone you would like to get to know better. There is room for everyone! RSVP by midnight on the Sunday before the dinner. We look forward to being with you at Azucar!



St. Mark's Book Group

The St. Mark's Book Study Group will meet on Thursday, June 25, at 10 am in the Large Conference Room and via Zoom. We welcome all who wish to participate.

Our selection this month is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. The story takes place in a peaceful retirement village, where four unlikely friends have formed a group called the Thursday Murder Club. They meet weekly (on Thursdays) to discuss (and try to "solve") unsolved crimes. When a local real estate developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the club suddenly finds itself in the middle of their first live case. The book is characterized by humor, clever plotting, and realistic portrayal of aging, and it has spawned a successful series and a 2025 film adaptation.

For more information, please contact Kay Sehorn or Judy Tolbert.

Family Ministry

Pastor Ali Rode Committee Chairperson

Family Ministry News

Summer temperatures mean things are heating up, and not just outside in God's back yard, but also as we shine a light on Family Ministry at St. Mark's!

Family Ministry is ministry to the whole church family. As the baptized people of God, each person is on a faith journey throughout each age and stage of their life. We recently as a Family Ministry Committee have been focusing on some essential offerings for families with young children as we anticipate other offerings across the ages. Check out ministry opportunities for all ages below. Stay up to date through email, worship announcements, and instagram @st.marks.youth.

8:30am Worship Offerings Geared for Families with Young Children

New "Family Ministry Moment" for all ages during worship (began in April)

New Storytime Opportunity: "Godly Play" for kids pre-K-5th grade during sermon time monthly this summer June 7, July 19, August 16th.

New Offerings for all Young families this Summer & Fall

Look for refreshed Worship Totes & Take Home SPARK! Leaflets for Pre-K & Elementary so you can lead faith discussions at home. Beginning September 13th SPARK! Family Sunday School at 9:30am where parents & family lead their children in learning the scriptures from worship facilitated by a St. Mark's Family Ministry Volunteer.

Stay tuned for Summer Hangouts Some young families are organizing another social event following up from our Everybody's Birthday party event. Stay tuned to our instagram, emails, and bulletin for more information.

New Side Quest Sundays Beginning this summer, once a quarter, we'll have an intergenerational gathering for all ages oriented around service, social, or spiritual activity. A "Side Quest" is an opportunity alongside the normal everyday events that invites you to a new adventure, much like in the video game world, "Side Quests" are fun, engaging, and remind us to have a little exploration in life. It's a great way to build new connections and grow in faith in a fun way. Summer Opportunity TBA.

July 26th Adult Vacation Bible School

Topic: "The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness" (2024) by Jonathan Haidt

About the book: "In *The Anxious Generation*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt lays out the facts about the epidemic of teen mental illness that hit many countries at the same time. He then investigates the nature of childhood, including why children need play and independent exploration to mature into competent, thriving adults...He presents more than a dozen mechanisms by which this "great rewiring of childhood" has interfered with children's social and neurological development, covering everything from sleep deprivation to attention fragmentation, addiction, loneliness, social contagion, social comparison, and perfectionism."

August 1st Children's VBS Saturday day program More information to follow, save the date!

August 16th Back to School Blessing in Worship We will pray for children Pre-K-12th grade as well as students studying in Higher Education as a part of our 8:30a and 10:30a services.

Family Ministry

Pastor Ali Rode Committee Chairperson

Everybody's Birthday Party!

Three families and friends celebrated everybody's birthday at our Everybody's Birthday Party May 17th. We had a great event. Only persons not pictured are: Susan Lakeman and then folks who helped with set up: Michael, Maddy, and Tara Thompson and Brian Rode.

We had an hour of fun celebrating Everybody's Birthday as Young Families gathered together. We shared in crafts, free play, hot potato, freeze dance, and storytime featuring a new book families of St. Marks will receive: "Seeking Best Friend" Written by Alison Marcotte, Illustrated by Diane Ewen. Everyone left with a little gift and new connections were made with volunteers and adults. Good time, and kids participated well together.

If you weren't able to join us contact Pastor Ali for your family's birthday gift. We are chatting about another summer hangout opportunity. Watch our Instagram @st.marks.youth and church communications for more information.

Check out our silly faces!



THEOLOGY ON TAP



Our next ToT will be June 18, 7pm at Middle James Brewery
400 N Polk St B, Pineville
Everyone is welcome!



May 21 at Birdsong Brewing Company

Gifts & Memorials

Jay Jacob Committee Chairperson

In Memory of Joanne Marz

Millie Cansler - Fellowship Hall Fund
Steve and Karen Dellinger - Fellowship Hall Fund
Dave and Eileen Dunlap - Fellowship Hall Fund
Joanne Marz Family - Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Sarah Ingle - Fellowship Hall Fund
Rob and Susan Johnson - Fellowship Hall Fund
Steve and Jane McCall - Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Social Ministry

Susan Ginns Committee Chairperson

Nourish Up

School's out, Hunger isn't. Help us stock the pantry for summer. Consider donating the following requested items (canned goods with pop tabs greatly appreciated) :

- Spaghettios with or without meatballs
- Chef Boyardee Ravioli
- Peanut butter
- Canned peaches and pears in juice, no sugar added
- low sodium canned vegetables
- whole grain cereals

Your donations help our neighbors!



Spring Shower for Children's Advocacy Center of Charlotte



Children's Advocacy Center of Charlotte (formerly Pat's Place) is the only child advocacy center in Mecklenburg County serving children from birth to age 18. Their mission is to provide a safe, comforting environment that reduces trauma and promotes healing for children experiencing abuse.

To help make children feel welcome and cared for during their visits, we are collecting items from their wish list, including:

Individual snacks: Goldfish, Pringles, Veggie Straws, pretzels, Kidz Clif ZBars, and Welch's fruit snacks
Toys & activities: slime, sticker sets, Crayola markers, coloring books, journals, sketch pads, Barbies, and superhero action figures

Help us "shower" these children with love and comfort through your donations! Please leave the items in the marked baskets in the Gathering Space now- June 30th.

St. Mark's Soup Kitchen

On Thursday, May 14th, Rob and Laura of The Self-Advocates Mecklenburg, were with us and distributed hygiene kits to our neighbors. The Self-Advocates of Mecklenburg County (SAM) was established in 1998 by Laura Newell, who envisioned a group that would connect people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) with each other and the community. We are grateful that SAM is part of our Soup Kitchen community!



Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

Worship Highlights



St. Mark's Handbell Choir,
Sunday, May 3rd



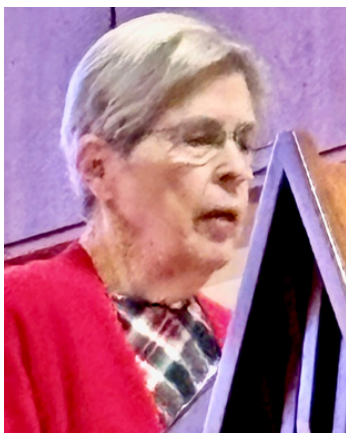
Taylor McNamara, Jack Richardson, cantors, Sunday, May 10th



St. Mark's Choir, Sunday, May 10th



Jack Richardson, Taylor
McNamara, 8:30am song leaders,
Sixth Sunday of Easter



Kay Finlon, lector,
Sunday, May 10th



Karen Feezor, lector,
Seventh Sunday of Easter



Pastor Ali, Seventh Sunday of
Easter

Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

Worship Highlights



Pastor Tim, Sunday, May 17th,
Seventh Sunday of Easter



Riley Smith, Prayer Assistant,
Seventh Sunday of Easter



Sunday, May 24th cantors and
8:30am worship song leaders,
Taylor McNamara, Nick Matherly



Scott Hartman, Charlotte Symphony Principal Bass
Trombone, Sunday, May 17th



Day of Pentecost,
Sunday, May 24th



Altar flowers on 5/24 Pentecost were
given by Barbara McKenzie in
memory of her husband, the late
Rev. Dr. Carl McKenzie.



Altar flowers on 5/31 Holy Trinity
were given to the glory of God by
Rev. Alexandra and Mr. Brian Rode.

Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

We Sing the Faith

Historical and Spiritual Insight Into the Hymns We Sing
Reflections by Lester Ackerman

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" ELW 367

This Easter hymn was first published in the Service Book and Hymnal (1958). The author is Paul Zeller Strodach (1876-1947) a Lutheran Pastor and author of numerous devotional and liturgical books, including *The Church Year: Studies in the Introits, Collects, Epistles, and Gospels* (Philadelphia, 1924). Notice the phrase "Christ has triumphed! He is living!", uses the same rhythmic and melodic ostinato five times in the first three stanzas. The fourth stanza, a doxology in praise of the Trinity, concludes "Christ has triumphed!" with an "Alleluia!" Strodach intended this hymn to be paired with the sixteenth-century German tune **LASST UNS ERFREUEN**. Though a vocally "athletic" tune, it spans only one octave. Dr. Paul Westermeyer writes in his *Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2010) "Strodach knew what he was doing when he used this tune for a text that joins the song of heaven and earth and has the incarnational exchange of the heaven's vault on the low end and the earth's "here" on the high."

"Jesus, We Are Gathered" ELW 529

This text and tune **JESU, TAWA PANO** are by Patrick Matsikenyiri (b. 1937) a musician and member of the Shona tribe in Zimbabwe. He is an internationally famous promoter of global African song. The text translates "we are gathered" or "we are here for you". C. Michael Hawn, a professor at Southern Methodist University writes: "the text functions like a Shona proverb, in this case like an acclamation or expression of community in which the plural 'we' is an affirmation that the community has a role in the health and spiritual well-being of the individual worshiper. Given the difficulties of getting to worship in Zimbabwe and the suffering many worshipers are undergoing, it is literally a miracle that many people 'are here' in worship."

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" ELW 389

was penned by Brian Wren (b. 1936) for Easter of 1968, just ten days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Wren is a minister in the United Reformed Church of England and Wales. He has revised this hymn several times, with the version in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* completed in 1993. His hymn reminds us that the risen Christ is not far away from our lives. Christ is alive, and suffers with us, yet lives and comes to us with good news, "till all of creation rings with joy, justice, love and praise." The tune **TRURO** is named for a city in Cornwall, England, and we believe written by Thomas Williams, from a collection of his hymns entitled *Psalmody Evangelica*, published in 1789.

"For the Beauty of the Earth" ELW 879

This popular hymn, from the Praise and Thanksgiving section of our hymnal, was written by a twenty-nine old following a walk in the beautiful countryside outside of his native Bath, England. Folliot S. Pierpoint (1835-1917) found inspiration in the beauty of his surroundings, and this hymn is the result. He wrote eight stanzas, five included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, with a few modifications. Pierpoint begins by acknowledging the beauty of creation, but also thanks God for family relationships, human love and friendships, physical senses, and Jesus himself. The remaining stanzas reflect the author's original intent for this to serve as a communion hymn. The refrain is inspired by Hebrews 13:15 "let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God." The tune name **DIX** came from the association of this melody from a hymn by William Dix (1837-1898) "As with Gladness Men of Old" ELW 302. Conrad Kocher (1786-1872) is the composer.

Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

"O Zion, Haste" ELW 668

Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923) was born in England, but spent most of her life in Pennsylvania, where her husband was the librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia. She wrote over forty hymns, and started writing "**O Zion, Haste**" in 1868. She says of this hymn "one night, while I was sitting up with one of my children who was ill with typhoid fever. I thought I should like to write a missionary hymn to the tune **PILGRIMS** for the hymn 'Hark, hark, my soul! Angelic songs are swelling.'" She was not able to write a fitting refrain that night. It wasn't until three years later she penned the refrain "Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release." English organist James Walch (1837-1901) wrote the tune **ANGELIC SONGS** in 1875, originally paired with the hymn "Hark, hark, my soul!" *The Church Hymnal* 1892 (Episcopal) joined Thomson's hymn, with Walch's tune.

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" ELW 392

This hymn was written in as a communion hymn in 1866 by William C. Dix (1837-1898). It was published in his *Altar Songs* (1867) under the title "Redemption by the Precious Blood" He had a successful career as a marine insurance manager in Glasgow, Scotland, but developed a second career as a writer of hymns, Christmas and Easter carols, as well as other religious verses, devotional books, and instructions for children. In addition to this hymn, our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* includes two additional hymns by Dix: "As with Gladness Men of Old" ELW 302, and "What Child Is This" ELW 296. The tune **HYFRYDOL** is a Welsh tune composed by Rowland H. Prichard (1811-1887). **HYFRYDOL** means delightful, beautiful, sweet and melodious. This popular hymn tune is paired with four different hymn texts in our hymnal.

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" ELW 855

This hymn was extracted from two six stanza hymns, twelve stanzas total. From Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) we have stanzas one, two, three, and five, and from Godfrey Thring (1823-1903) stanza four. Both hymn writers were inspired by the passage from Revelation 19:12 "and on his head were many crowns." Each stanza itemizes the characteristics of the risen Lord: "The Lamb upon his throne," "The Lord of love," "The Lord of life," and "The Lord of years." George Elvey (1816-1893) wrote the tune **DIADEMATA** for this hymn, with its first publication in the 1868 edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. The tune name **DIADEMATA** is derived from the Greek word for crown or diadems, a royal headband.

"I Come with Joy" ELW 482

This hymn comes to us from the pen of contemporary British pastor and hymn writer Brian Wren (b. 1936). Written in the summer of 1968, the hymn was intended as a complement to a series of sermons on the meaning of communion. Wren gathers in all the elements of the Lord's Supper-joy, forgiveness, remembrance, community, love, praise, thanksgiving, and dedication. He writes: "The hymn moves from the individual ('I come') to the collective (we'll go'). Stanza four describes Christ's 'real presence' in the faith community and in the communion meal." The tune **DOVE OF PEACE** is from *The Southern Harmony*, (New Haven, 1835), a hymnal compiled by William Walker (1809-1875).

Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

"God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind" ELW 400

This relatively new Pentecost hymn was first published in 2000 in a collection entitled *Awake Our Hearts to Praise!* The author is Herman Stuempfle (1923-2007) a professor of preaching at Gettysburg Seminary, where he eventually became Dean for five years, and then President of the college for thirteen years. Dr. Paul Westermeyer says of this hymn: "a whole series of images and attributes of the spirit are called out--in this case not the gentle ones, but powerful ones of tempest and whirlwind, blazing and burning, earthquake and thunder, and passion without sleep. The petitions are equally powerful: drive us to costly service, let your flaming Spirit surge and kindle truth against the deceit of injustice, break the chains of sin and walls that divide, and stir in us a restlessness that is not content with evil. Strong stuff!" The Welsh tune **CWM RHONDDA** (Rhondda Valley) is paired nicely with this text, as well as two additional hymns in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, #618, "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer", and #705, "God of Grace and God of Glory".

"As the Windsong" ACS 943

Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020) is the author of this hymn from *All Creation Sings* (Augsburg Fortress, 2020). She was born in New Zealand and holds degrees from universities in New Zealand and England. Her hymns are found in more than 140 hymn collections from around the world in European and Asian translations. Murray writes: "This engaging tune was sent to me without a theme by composer friend Swee Hong Lim (b. 1963) of Singapore. Its lyricism gave a feeling of the movement of the Spirit, both gentle and powerful. The tune, which I was asked to suggest a name for, **WAIRUA TAPU**, Māori for Holy Spirit." The spirit of God is expressed as wind stirring trees, a rainbow after rain, the green of spring, wine at the feast, warming the heart, seem but not heard, the dance of a new life.

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" ELW 413

This popular hymn was written specifically for Trinity Sunday by Anglican Bishop Reginald Heber (1783-1826). His writing is based on John's vision of God as found in Revelation 4. Austin Lovelace says of this hymn: "Although filled with apocalyptic language, the hymn combines a sense of mystery with God's mercy, power, love and purity." First published in 1826 in a collection entitled *A Selection of Psalms and Hymns for the Parish Church of Branbury*, Heber's hymn was included in the selection of hymns that reaffirm the doctrine of the triune God. The tune **NICAEA** was written for this text and published in *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1861). John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876) is the composer of this tune, as well as nearly 300 additional tunes from the Victorian era. **NICAEA** is named for the ancient Greek city of Nicaea, where the Nicene Creed was initially established in 325 A.D.

"Come, Join the Dance of Trinity" ELW 412

This hymn is the work of American hymn writer and pastor Richard Leach (b. 1953), who wrote this hymn in 2002 for the 250th anniversary of Trinity Church on the Green, in New Haven, Connecticut. Leach says of his hymn: "Dancing has a very long association with the Trinity, going back to eighth century theologians who used the word perichoresis to speak of the interdependence of unity and Trinity. 'Dance around' is a literal translation of the word, but its sense is 'interweaving,' and I use that in the hymn." In his **Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Worship** (2010) Dr. Paul Westermeyer writes of this hymn: "What we get here, then, is the church in motion with a winsome welcome by and to the God of its being--an invitation to dance the Trinity's interweaving dance that 'began' before all worlds began, to see the Trinity's face in Christ's human flesh and bone, to speak aloud the Trinity's wind and flame that frees us to move, and then to shape the rising song in joy." The tune **KINGSFOLD** is an English folk tune named for the town in Surrey, England.

Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

June Serving Schedule

Crucifer/Acolyte

6/7 C/A: Needed
6/14 C/A: Needed
6/21 C/A: Needed
6/28 C/A: Needed

Sound System

6/7 John Brumbaugh
6/14 Neil Dixon
6/21 Bob Chernet
6/28 Kevin Feezor

Tabulators

6/7 Joe Barrett
Meg Fielding
6/14 A.J. Pridgen
Dawn Schwartz
6/21 Karen Feezor
Doug Milheim
6/28 Joe Barrett
Meg Fielding
Dianne Thomas

Ushers

Team : Doug Milheim, Marc and Susan Ginns, Eddie Goodall, Rod Stephens

Prayer Assistants

6/7 Tom Tolbert
6/14 Larry Dagenhart, Jr.
6/21 Youth
6/28 Mike Doyne

Lectors

6/7 Kay Finlon
6/14 Charles Lakeman
6/21 Larry Lippert
6/28 Andrea Long

Communion Helpers

6/7 Chris Miller
6/14 Catherine Metze
6/21 Sandy Rach
6/28 Kay Finlon

Video Streaming

6/7 Ron Wenzel
6/14 Joe Barrett
6/21 Joe Barrett
6/28 A.J. Pridgen

Greeters

6/7 Eddie & Carol Goodall
Patrick & Rebecca Huang
6/14 Dale & Mary Lou Hopp
Jay Jacob
6/21 Millie Cansler
Dave & Eileen Dunlap
6/28 Susan Lakeman
Dawn Schwartz

Communion Assistants

6/7 Bonnie Eckerd, Chris Stevenson
Andrew Puky, Tom Puky
6/14 Barbara Baker, Nick Wartner
Betsy Wenzel, Kimberly Zimmerman
6/21 Karen & Kevin Feezor
Bonnie Eckerd, Virginia Molan
5/24 Lisa Barnette, Rebecca Huang
Charles Lakeman, Andrea Long

June Birthdays

6/1 Melody Johnson
6/3 Will Miles
6/3 Sydney Payne
6/4 Gene Ellington
6/4 Elizabeth Wenzel
6/6 Kevin Lynch
6/7 Kevin Feezor
6/7 Susan Johnson

6/10 Janice Miller
6/16 Mark Thornton
6/17 Marilyn Graham
6/17 Meg Fielding
6/20 Jordan Eason
6/20 Michael Thompson
6/21 Mari McKenzie
6/21 John Simon

6/23 James Frazier
6/23 Natalie Howarth
6/23 Kelsey Smith
6/24 Jett Davey
6/24 Anna Kreps
6/25 Kendal Ferner
6/26 Avery Schwartz
6/28 Brooks Stevenson