



I was glad when they said to me,  
**LET US GO TO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD!**



**DIVINE SERVICE**  
**SETTING III**

**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 12, 2026**

# Hymns

- Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain.....LSB 487
- O Sons and Daughters of the King.....LSB 470
- O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts' Desire.....LSB 553
- Jesus, Priceless Treasure.....LSB 743
- Christ Sits at God's Right Hand.....LSB 564

# Readings

- First Reading.....Acts 5:29-42
- Epistle.....1 Peter 1:3-9
- Holy Gospel.....St. John 20:19-31

# Servants

- Pastor ..... Rev. Daniel Carlson
- Elder of the Month.....Alan Marxhausen
- Musician .....Sue Drury
- Reader .....Theisens
- Usher .....Chad Calander
- Acolytes .....Catibree C./Ella R.
- Altar Guild .....Bonnie Giese

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# The Lord's Supper

St. Paul's Lutheran Church believes and teaches that the Lord gives us His true body and blood in the bread and wine served in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, "This is My body, this is My blood, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins," who repent of all sin, and who set aside any refusal to forgive and love others as He forgives.

Individuals who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a belief differing from this congregation and The Lutheran Church —Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to first speak with the Pastor, so as to refrain from eating and drinking in an unworthy manner causing harm to themselves.

For further reading, please take a copy of "A Simple Explanation of Fellowship in the Lord's Supper" from the information rack in the Narthex. You can find the information rack near the pastor's office by the front door. Members should use the questions on the back of this bulletin to help prepare to receive. St. Paul's is a Closed Communion congregation.



# A Word of Christian Welcome

St. Paul's is "Growing together as God's family!"

What does this mean? It means that we are growing, not only in numbers, but in faith toward God. It means that we are more than a bunch of individuals, but that we are a heavenly family brought together under Christ and making the bold confession of faith to the world.

We are therefore delighted that you have joined us today to hear and receive the blessings of the Word of God in the Divine Service where God comes to us by the means of grace to give us mercy, forgiveness, and His Spirit. The Lutheran liturgy might be hard for first-time visitors to our church or to the historic Lutheran church, but don't worry! We are here to help you so that you can take part in the liturgy and hymns without reservation or fear.

The Lord's Supper will most likely be served today. This is also called Holy Communion. We follow our Lord's instructions alone here, and not the opinions of men. Please be sure to read The Lord's Supper statement on the previous page. Visitors, if you did not have a chance to speak to the pastor prior to the service, please take no offence if the pastor does not serve you should you come up to the rail. He will certainly offer a blessing and prayer over you. You should speak to him as quickly as possible after the service.

Regarding children, we LOVE when children attend the service and hope your children participate in the singing and reading of Scripture. If they're a little noisy, it's okay and they're welcome to stay. If you wish, you may take them to the Cry Room at the back of the sanctuary, or to the Nursery room, provided they are supervised. You may also provide them with a children's bag and bulletin, found just outside the sanctuary on the left.

Finally, all are welcome to fellowship after the service to drink some coffee and eat some delicious breakfast treats. Bible Study and Sunday School follow at 10:30.

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## Today's Theme

"Seeking dedicated worker. Suffering not optional." If we were to read that simple line in a job posting, it certainly would give us pause. People generally want to avoid suffering at any cost. Scripture reminds us that there may be a dynamic of discomfort to faith-filled living that follows the call of the risen Savior. In his hymn text "'Come, Follow Me,' the Savior Spake" from the 1600s, Johann Scheffler concludes, "Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, and take the cross appointed and, firmly clinging to His Word, in suffering be undaunted. For those who bear the battle's strain the crown of heav'nly life obtain" (LSB 688:5). The challenges of the twenty-first century may differ from those of the seventeenth, but they are just as real. Our Lord promises that He is always with us on our life's journey. With Easter joy, we travel onward together toward His glorious heavenly kingdom!

# Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation

487 *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*



1 Come, you faith-ful, raise the strain Of tri - um-phant glad - ness!  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day: Christ has burst His pris - on  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,  
4 For to - day a-mong His own Christ ap - peared, be - stow - ing  
5 Al - le - lu - ia! Now we cry To our King im - mor - tal,



God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness,  
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun has ris - en;  
With the roy - al feast of feasts Comes its joy to ren - der;  
His deep peace, which ev - er - more Pass - es hu - man know - ing.  
Who, tri - um - phant, burst the bars Of the tomb's dark por - tal.



Loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters,  
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing  
Comes to glad - den faith-ful hearts Which with true af - fec - tion  
Nei - ther could the gates of death Nor the tomb's dark por - tal  
Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - um - phant glad - ness!



Led them with un-moist-ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
From His light, to whom is giv'n Laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
Wel - come in un - wea - ried strain Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion!  
Nor the watch - ers nor the seal Hold Him as a mor - tal.  
God has brought His Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness!

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.  
Tune: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.



the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—\*

**if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

## **Kyrie**

*LSB 186*

**G** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Christ, have mercy upon us.  
**G** Lord, have mercy upon us.

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 187*

**P** Glory be to God on high:  
**G** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## First Reading

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. <sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, **“Peace be with you.”** <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, **“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”** <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, **“Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”**

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, **“Peace be with you.”** <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, **“Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”** <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, **“Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”**

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## Apostles' Creed

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

# Hymn of the Day

470 O Sons and Daughters of the King



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly  
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful  
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and  
4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!  
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.  
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."  
came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,  
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;  
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8 How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,  
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:  
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.  
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## Offertory

- ☞** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

## Offering

## Prayer of the Church

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## Proper Preface (Full)

## Sanctus

LSB 195

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

## Pax Domini

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

# Distribution Hymns

553 O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts' Desire



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, Cre -  
 2 How vast Your mer - cy to ac - cept The  
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, The  
 4 O let Your might - y love pre - vail To



a - tion's might - y Lord, Re - deem - er of the  
 bur - den of our sin And bow Your head in  
 ran - som has been paid; You now as - cend the  
 purge us of our pride That we may stand be -



fall - en world, By ho - ly love out - poured:  
 cru - el death To make us clean with - in.  
 Fa - ther's throne In robes of light ar - rayed.  
 fore Your throne By mer - cy pu - ri - fied.

5 Christ Jesus, be our present joy,  
 Our future great reward;  
 Our only glory, may it be  
 To glory in the Lord!

△ 6 All praise to You, ascended Lord;  
 All glory ever be  
 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
 Through all eternity!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. John Chapdler, 1806–76, adapt.  
 Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt  
 Text and tune: Public domain

743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,  
 2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me  
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;  
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish  
Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,  
Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me  
Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?  
Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.  
Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.  
Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer  
Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and  
God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its  
Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.  
hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.  
depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.  
Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

5 Evil world, I leave thee; Thou canst not deceive me, Thine appeal is vain.  
Sin that once did blind me, Get thee far behind me, Come not forth again.  
Past thy hour, O pride and pow'r;  
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever, Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in.  
Those who love the Father, Though the storms may gather, Still have peace within.  
Yea, whate'er I here must bear,  
Thou art still my purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure!

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

- C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the  
face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

## Post-Communion Collect

## Salutation

LSB 201

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.

## Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 202

## Hymn to Depart

*564 Christ Sits at God's Right Hand*



- 1 Christ sits at God's right hand, His sav - ing work com - plete,  
2 Christ was that priest God swore, U - nique - ly First and Last,  
3 Christ's al - tar was the tree, Where on the world's be - half  
4 What cost - ly sac - ri - fice To cov - er hu - man sin!



- To reign till ev - 'ry foe will lie Be - neath His feet—  
Who would in righ - teous - ness and love Be un - sur - passed:  
He shed a blood, un - like the blood Of goat or calf,  
Who but Christ Je - sus had the right To en - ter in?



All that the Fa - ther planned, The Son sought to ful - fill,  
“A priest for - ev - er - more,” An oath God would not break,  
To seal God’s guar - an - tee Of grace that can - not fail;  
His blood, that sprin - kled price, So we might be as - sured



When first He said, “Lord, here am I To do Your will.”  
“A priest with - in the or - der of Mel - chiz - e - dek.”  
With blood He en - tered for our good Be - hind the veil.  
That our in - her - i - tance in light Has been se - cured.

5 Then let us now draw near,  
Washed in that precious flood  
And enter the Most Holy Place  
By Jesus’ blood.  
From hearts that are sincere,  
Let tongues our hope profess,  
And trust anew God’s faithful grace  
That we confess.

△ 6 All praise to Christ we bring,  
Our Lord who intercedes,  
Our great High Priest enthroned above  
Who knows our needs;  
And to the Father sing  
Our songs of thankful praise,  
Who with the Spirit reigns in love  
For endless days.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955  
Tune: Hebrew  
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Tune: Public domain

### Acknowledgments

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# Lord's Supper Preparation

Communicant Members, before receiving the Lord's Supper, please take some time to consider the following questions. According to Scripture, you are to examine yourself first, before receiving this most holy meal. The LCMS is a Closed Communion church body.

- Am I baptized in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit?
- Am I repentant, acknowledging my sins, trusting in the forgiveness of Christ and seeking to amend my sinful ways?
- Do I believe Jesus' true body and true blood are really present in the bread and wine?
- Do I confess the Holy Bible, in its entirety, is the Word of God?
- Do I agree with Luther's Questions and Answers found on page 329 of the hymnal?

If you are struggling with any sins or with the guilt that comes from sin, and if you need to speak to the pastor before you commune, please make an appointment to come for private confession and absolution. Confessed sins cannot be divulged, and private confession and absolution can be a great comfort for the soul in certain situations.

## Prayer Requests

Chuck VanDonsel

Susan Lorenz

Please update prayer requests by leaving a note in the office or using the church app.

Righteousness exalts a nation,  
but sin is a reproach to any  
people.

Proverbs 14:34 (ESV)

Pay to all what is owed to them:  
taxes to whom taxes are owed,  
revenue to whom revenue is  
owed, respect to whom respect is  
owed, honor to whom honor is  
owed.  
Romans 13:7 (ESV)