

# Welcome!

to  
*St. Paul Lutheran Church*  
*Clay Center, KS*

*Thank you*  
*for joining us for worship!*

*The Resurrection of Our Lord*

*April 4 & 5, 2026*

*Worship Folder*



## **St. Paul Lutheran Communion Statement:**

**COMMUNION WELCOME**-God calls upon His people to exercise care in the use of His Supper because harm results when Communion is received without repentance or a right understanding (1 Corinthians 11:23-30) and when fellowship is practiced without agreement in God's Word (Galatians 5:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:15, 3:14). In Communion Jesus gives us His true Body and Blood, in with and under the bread and wine, to forgive our sins (Matthew 26:26-28 and 1 Corinthians 10:16-21). We also profess agreement in the teachings of the church at whose altar we commune. Thus, we cannot offer this Supper to those who have not received instruction per the mysteries of this meal. We do invite fellow members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to join our members as we receive the Sacrament today. Others are asked to speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. Those who desire to come forward for a blessing are invited to do so, indicating their intent to receive a blessing by crossing their arms in front.

Distribution of the bread is to the hand of the communicant. "Gluten Free" wafers are available. Please let the ushers know PRIOR to service if you are needing this substitution.

Distribution of the wine is by choice of individual cup or common chalice. If you receive with the individual cup, please keep the small cup visible to the minister with the common cup. Individual cups of unfermented grape juice will be provided at the center of each of the trays for those who prefer grape juice over wine. Both are "fruit of the vine" and in the sacrament become means by which Christ grants us his blood to assure us of forgiveness, life and salvation. The unfermented grape juice is light in color.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **RINGING OF THE BELL**

## **PRELUDE**

## AS WE GATHER

Are you wearing a new outfit for Easter? The custom of putting on new clothes for Easter Day has a long Christian history. In the earliest centuries after the ascension of Christ, newly baptized Christians wore white garments of new linen as a visible sign of the newness that being baptized had brought into their lives. Soon it became a tradition that all the faithful would join the newly baptized in arraying themselves on Easter in a new outfit to symbolize the new life that Jesus, through His resurrection, made a reality for all believers. The new clothes were much more than a fashion statement; they were a statement of faith. No matter what we are wearing today as individuals, together we share the best eternal clothing there is!

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

*The people gather in the sanctuary, where the only candle lit in the church is the Christ candle. It may also be the unextinguished candle from the Good Friday Tenebrae, a lit candle carried over from the Holy Saturday service, or it might be the paschal candle set for usage throughout the season of Easter.*

## THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

**P** May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*He lights a candle from the one that is burning and passes the light to the acolyte who will light the other candles at the altar area, and beyond—if there are others in the sanctuary.*

**P** The light of Christ.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven**

**LSB 477**

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

**P** This is the day that the LORD has made;

**C** **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**P** Christ Jesus abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

**C** **Jesus our Lord was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.**

**P** If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

**C** **God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

**C** **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our creator and preserver, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are stained by sin from our very beginnings and we have sinned again and again in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves and have often turned away from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for all our many sins. Have mercy on us, gracious Father; forgive us for Jesus' sake, and by the power of the Holy Spirit direct our lives so that we serve You in true faithfulness. Grant us victory over all that oppresses us and build Your kingdom among us here through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**P** In His boundless mercy, God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him for restoration and renewal. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God keep you strong in the Holy Spirit and grant you a life on earth in which you live in baptismal grace and joyfully tell of His greatness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

**P** I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

**C** **The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and He has become my salvation.**

**P** Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,  
Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

**C** **You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You have  
redeemed;  
You have guided them by Your strength to Your holy abode.**

**P** You will bring them in and plant them on Your own mountain,  
the place, O LORD, which You have made for Your abode,

**C** **the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established.  
The LORD will reign forever and ever.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** I will sing to the LORD, for He has triumphed gloriously;  
the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.

KYRIE

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of  
God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



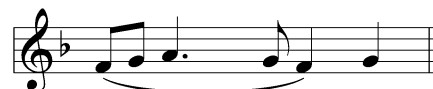
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let  
us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.  
O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the  
death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the  
power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through  
daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to life before You  
in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who  
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever.

**C** Amen.

## FIRST READING

Acts 10:34–42

<sup>34</sup>So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 16

**C** **Preserve me, O God, for in You I take refuge.**

Women: *I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from You.” As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.*

Men: *The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips.*

**C** **The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; You hold my lot.**

Women: *The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.*

Men: *I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.*

**C** **For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## EPISTLE

Colossians 3:1–4

<sup>1</sup>If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup>For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## GRADUAL

**C** **Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1–10

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead

men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” <sup>8</sup>So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

LSB 457

### SERMON

### We All Believe in One True God

LSB 953

### OFFERING

Luke 12:48 “Everyone to whom much is given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand more.”

### OFFERTORY

**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will

call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- That the church live out its calling and that the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ be joyfully celebrated in all places, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** That the nations of the world find peace with justice in our time, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** That the abiding blessing of God rest upon our families, our neighborhoods, our places of business, and our schools, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** That those whose confession of the true faith leads to bodily peril or other sufferings know relief and deliverance from every danger, let us pray of the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That all whose labor adds meaning and beauty to the life of the church—the musicians, artists, craft workers, flower arrangers, and others—find joy and blessing in all that they do to the glory of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** That all those whose lives know specific challenges, including those who are ill and those who mourn, know heavenly benediction and strength for each day, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** That the memory of the faithful departed be held in reverence and honor by all of us as we await a time of resurrection and reunion at the close of the age, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** These things and all else that we should have asked on this day of holy rejoicing, grant to us Lord, for the sake of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen.**

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

**P** It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, our gracious heavenly Father, for in Your goodness You have given Your only-begotten Son for our salvation. By the guiding of Your Spirit direct

our ways that we be filled with His presence. Kindle in us the fire of Your love and grant that we ever make the good confession of our faith. Grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 507

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** With joyful praise, Lord God, we bless You this day for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to be the perfect sacrifice for sin so that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name. Grant that our lives know the peace that surpasses all understanding. Invited by Your grace may we come to Your Table with grateful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood that we live with confidence, rejoicing in our connection to You through Holy Baptism and confidently awaiting the eternal feast with You in Your eternal kingdom and with all the saints in glory.

**C** **Amen.**

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and Passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

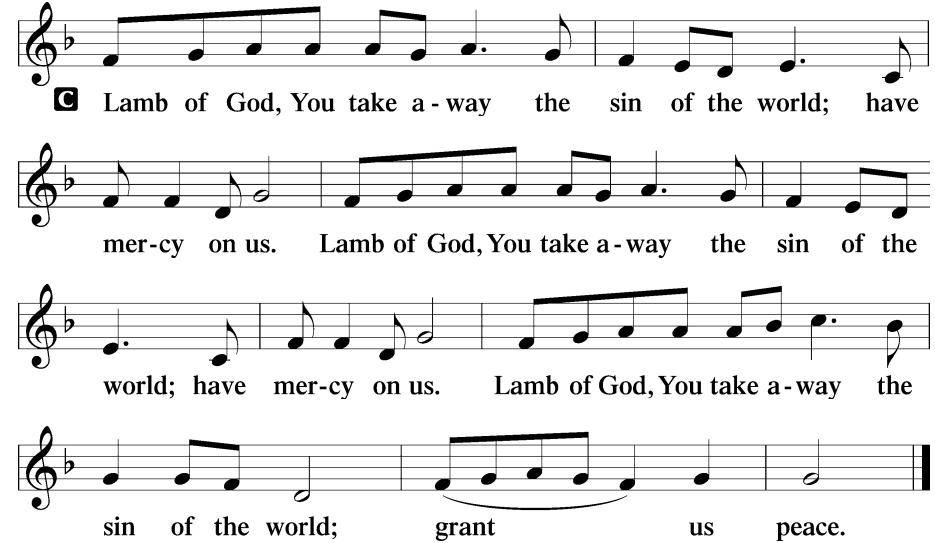
**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## PAX DOMINI

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

**C** **Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI

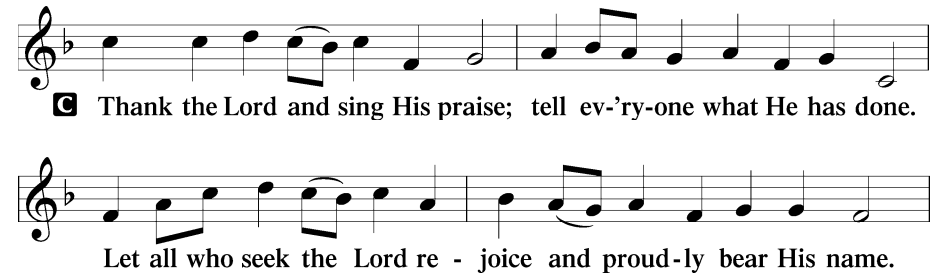


**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

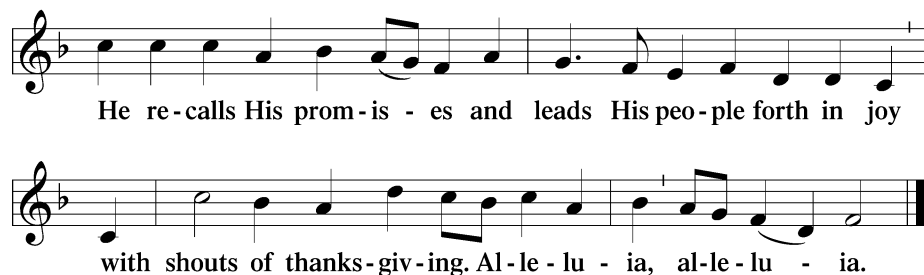
## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done	LSB 464
Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds	LSB 465
I Know That My Redeemer Lives	LSB 461
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing	LSB 475
Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won	LSB 490

## THANK THE LORD



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.  
O Lord God, heavenly Father, ruler of all things, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come through this blessed Meal. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having now received this wondrous Sacrament, we may die daily to sin through our Baptism and rise new and restored as we joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until that time when we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your glory for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C** Amen.

### BENEDICAMUS

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### BENEDICTION

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

**Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia**

**LSB 463**

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have a deep & personal meaning to so many.  
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In Memory of Lyle G Underwood

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In Memory of Loved Ones

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Mike & Kelly Holte  
Happy Easter