

# Welcome!

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

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

*Lent - Midweek 6*

*April 9, 2025*

*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**

## Good News from the Beginning: The Gospel in Genesis

The Good News of a Savior Who Brings Good from Evil

### AS WE GATHER

One of the most popular and lasting musicals of the past decades has been *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Originally written in 1968 as a fifteen-minute-long pop cantata for a performance at the Colet Court School in London, *Joseph* has grown in length and popularity. It has been presented in theaters around the world, from London's West End to Broadway and beyond, launching the lasting careers of collaborators Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. What has endeared the musical to thousands of performers and audience members is its colorful characters, catchy music, and the themes of forgiveness and new beginnings that shine through the presentation. The story of Joseph is one in which the handiwork of God to bring good out of evil is clearly evident. The original story of Joseph from the book of Genesis is a clear preview of the Passion story, how Jesus brings good out of evil for our sakes, for us to learn from in this Lenten season.

### INVOCATION

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

**C** **Amen.**

### PSALM

**P** Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!

**C** **Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.**

**P** For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground; he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.

**C** **Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.**

**P** I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done; I ponder the work of Your hands.

**C** **I stretch out my hands to You; my soul thirsts for You like a parched land.**

**P** Answer me quickly, O LORD! My spirit fails! Hide not Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down to the pit.

**C** **Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.**

**P** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to You for refuge!

**C** **Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

**P** For Your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life! In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

**C** **And in Your steadfast love You will cut off my enemies, and You will destroy all the adversaries of my soul, for I am Your servant.**

**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.**

### SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

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

### COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, You gave the Law so that even in our sin we might know Your will for our lives, and You gave us Your only Son to cleanse our lives of sin. For His sake, forgive us and renew us so that we may serve You faithfully; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### FIRST READING

*Genesis 50:15–21*

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this

command before he died, <sup>17</sup>‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

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

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

### PRAYER RESPONSE

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, as we remember the past and meditate on Your works, we give thanks that when the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature have pursued us, in Your faithfulness and righteousness You have not hidden Your face from us but have rescued us from our enemies and preserved our lives though Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for He was not ashamed to call us His brothers and sisters but freely forgave and rescued us, and He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### SECOND READING

*Romans 8:28–39*

<sup>28</sup>We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who

shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

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

### VERSE

**C** **Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

### HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 26:47–56*

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

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

<sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.” <sup>49</sup>And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. <sup>51</sup>And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword

will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup>Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup>But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" <sup>55</sup>At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. <sup>56</sup>But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left him and fled.

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

**What Wondrous Love Is This**

**LSB 543**

**SERMON**

**On My Heart Imprint Your Image**

**LSB 422**



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856-1921, alt.  
Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758  
Text and tune: Public domain

**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.

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**



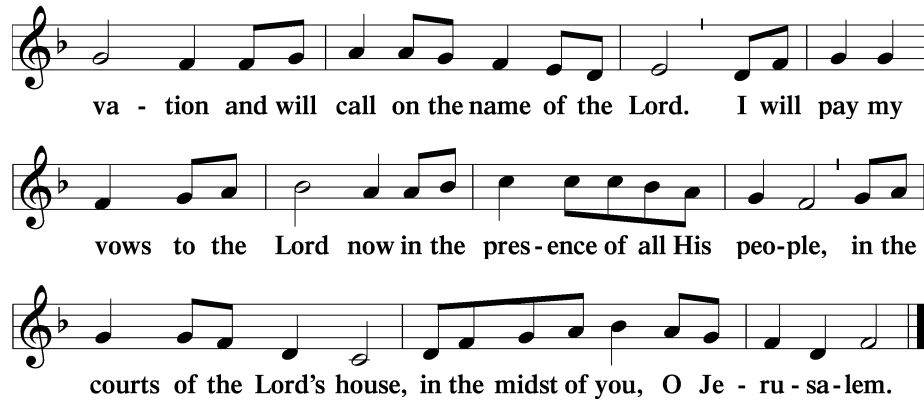
**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e - fits to



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.

### RESPONSIVE LITANY

- P** Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
**C** **Let our cry come to You.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, as we draw near to the end of this Lenten season, we pray that the words we have heard would abide in our hearts as we abide in You.  
**C** **You, O Lord, have the words of eternal life.**
- P** Grant us peace this night  
**C** **with hearts that are restful, because they have found their rest in You.**
- P** Send us back tomorrow to our daily lives and duties, refreshed and restored,  
**C** **with greater understanding in our minds, greater love within our hearts, and a firmer grip upon Your hand.**
- P** Lord, we lift up to You our friends and loved ones who are not with us at this time.  
**C** **Bless them, O Lord, and keep them safe.**
- P** Hear us, O Lord, as we silently bring You our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

- P** Trusting in Your mercy, we pray as Your Son taught us:

### 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.**

### BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you, defend you from all evil, and bring you to everlasting life.  
**C** **Amen.**

### When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

LSB 425

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.  
Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**For those who wish, the Sacrament will be served.....**

### Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**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."

### **DISTRIBUTION**

#### **Post Communion Collect**

**P** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **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.**