"Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy..."

Welcome to

# SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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"In Nomine lesu"

# Second Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 16, 2023

**Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, and to the blessings, comfort, and peace of this congregation. As we gather, we prepare our hearts for the worship and praise of our Lord and Savior by remembering what the Scriptures say: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!' " *Psalm 122:1* and "One thing have I asked of the Lord...that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple." *Psalm 27:4.* In that joy, let us worship together with prayer and praise.

**<u>Each person or family</u>** is asked to fill out the <u>registration card</u> found in your bulletin. The ushers will gather the cards from both members and guests following worship.

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. Since this is also a sign of our common confession of faith, we welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are presently confirmed members of congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you wish to commune for the first time at St. Paul's, please speak to Pastor before the service.

**Prelude** *"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"* Benjamin Culli Welcome and Announcements Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells

# The Order of Worship

Lutheran Service Book – Divine Service Four with Communion

Hymn of Invocation "He's Risen, He's Risen" LSB #480

# **Invocation** (please stand)

- P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# **Confession and Absolution**

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

# Service of the Word

- P Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
- C if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
- C make known his deeds among the peoples!
- P Sing to him, sing praises to him;
- C tell of all his wondrous works!
- P Glory in his holy name;
- C let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!
- P Seek the LORD and his strength;

C seek his presence continually!

- P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
- C his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.
- P He remembers his covenant forever,

C the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

- All 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 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
- C if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.



Gloria in Excelsis **G** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth: 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa-ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord. Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth! Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. 0 For - ev - er and for - ev - er. Be wor-shiped and a - dored: We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we singus, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt Have mer - cy on CTV. You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High, Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high-God the Fa-ther's glo-ry. "A-men!" our glad re - ply. In

#### Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

#### **Collect of the Day**

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.

C Amen.

(be seated)

**Chime Choir** 

"As the Deer"

setting: Patricia Cota

<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 vou, 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 that the Christ is Jesus.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

# Epistle

1 Peter 1:3-9

<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.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



#### Holy Gospel

John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.
C Glory to You, 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 any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, 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 to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day "O Sons and Daughters of the King" LSB #470

Sermon "The Easter Difference" 1 Peter 1:3-9

#### Presentation of the Offering & Musical Offering

"Christ at Table with His Friends" Emma Lou Diemer

#### **Prayers of the Church**

(After each portion of the prayers)

- P Lord, in your mercy, C hear our prayer.
- P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace, for the sake of Your Son, You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the blessed Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain eternal salvation; 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.

#### Service of the Sacrament

Preface (please stand)

- 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.
- P It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:





# Prayer of Thanksgiving

P We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

#### Lord's Prayer

- P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:
- All 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.

# 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."

#### Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

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C Amen.
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#### Distribution (be seated)

(All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup. *Children are welcome to remain standing to receive a blessing from the pastor.*)

The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain wine. You are welcome to make your choice. Gluten free wafers are also available.)

#### **Distribution Hymns**

"You Are the Way; through You Alone"	LSB #526
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"	LSB #475



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

- P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- 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.

#### **Closing Hymn**

"Savior, Again to They Dear Name We Raise" LSB #917

#### **Silent Prayer**

#### Postlude "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done" Benjamin Culli

# "Soli Deo Gloria"

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