



*Welcome to*

## **SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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"In Nomine Iesu"

## *Ascension Sunday*

### *Confirmation*

Sunday, May 21, 2023

We extend a warm **WELCOME** to all who are worshipping with us today. May you find great joy in God's grace as we have come to know it in Jesus Christ. In a world of earning one's way and striving for achievement, we are here because we have been graced, loved, died for and blessed. It has been a gift from the heart of God. We have much for which to be grateful. Let us worship the Lord in spirit and truth.

**Everyone**, both guests and members, **are** asked to fill out the attendance card found in the pew rack and place it in the basket on the table or hand it to an usher as you leave the service.

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**  
**Welcome and Announcements**  
**Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells**

**The Order of Worship**  
Lutheran Service Book –  
Divine Service Four with Communion

**Entrance Hymn**

*“This is the Day the Lord Has Made”*

LSB #903

**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.**

**C Amen.**

## Gloria in Excelsis



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!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
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—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation

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

## Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.  
Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C Amen.

*(be seated)*

## Choir Anthem

*"Lord, Be With Us On This Day"*  
Words and Music by Jay Althouse

## First Reading

*Acts 1:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, <sup>2</sup> until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. <sup>3</sup> He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

<sup>4</sup> And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 1:15-23*

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup> I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup> having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the

immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might <sup>20</sup> that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

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

### Alleluia and Verse (*please stand*)

**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**C** These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God,

**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

*Luke 24:44-53*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And behold, I am sending

the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup> And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup>and were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### **Nicene Creed**

**All** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*(be seated)*



## Children's Message

**Hymn of the Day**    *"A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing"*    LSB #493

## Sermon

## Presentation of the Offering & Musical Offering

## 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    All these things and whatever else You know that we need,  
grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose  
again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy  
Spirit, one God forever.

**C    Amen.**

**Rite of Confirmation** (10:30 a.m.)

LSB 272

## 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:

### Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Having revealed Your glory in the face of Your only-begotten Son, who suffered, died, and rose for our salvation, You have exalted Him to the highest majesty at Your right hand, that He might graciously fill all things.

Grant us faithfully to eat and drink this Holy Supper, trusting our reigning Savior Jesus, who, though unseen in

His ascended glory, is here present to save by 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."*

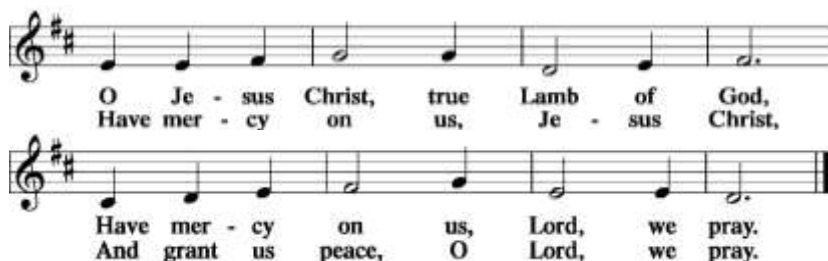
### Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei

The musical notation for Agnus Dei consists of two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains two lines of lyrics: "1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God," and "2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,". The second staff also has a treble clef and a common time signature. It contains two lines of lyrics: "You take the sin of the world a - way;" and "You take the sin of the world a - way;". The notes are as follows: Staff 1: 1 O (quarter), Je - (quarter), sus (quarter), Christ, (quarter), true (quarter), Lamb (quarter), of (quarter), God, (half). Staff 2: 2 O (quarter), Je - (quarter), sus (quarter), Christ, (quarter), true (quarter), Lamb (quarter), of (quarter), God, (half). Staff 3: You (quarter), take (quarter), the (quarter), sin (quarter), of (quarter), the (quarter), world (quarter), a - (quarter), way; (half). Staff 4: You (quarter), take (quarter), the (quarter), sin (quarter), of (quarter), the (quarter), world (quarter), a - (quarter), way; (half).



### **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.*

*The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)*

### **Distribution Hymns**

"What Is This Bread"

LSB #629

"Christ Be My Leader"

LSB #861

### **Post-Communion Collect** *(please stand)*

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**        *“Let Me Be Thine Forever”*        **LSB #689**

**Silent Prayer**

**Postlude**

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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*Confirmation*