



“He was lost, and is found.”

*Welcome to*  
**SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

***Fourth Sunday in Lent***

March 30, 2025

“In Nomine Iesu”

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***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.

***Each person or family*** is asked to fill out the ***registration card*** 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 a congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Call to Worship ~ *Ring of the Bell***

## **The Order of Worship**

Lutheran Service Book –  
Divine Service One with Communion

## Hymn of Invocation

*“Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear”*

LSB #908

### 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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful  
and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from  
all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word  
and for self-examination.*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

All **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 punish-  
ment. 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.**

### Absolution

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

### Introit

*Ps. 51:2-6; antiphon: Ps. 51:1*

P Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
C **according to your abundant mercy**  
**blot out my transgressions.**

P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
C **and cleanse me from my sin!**

P For I know my transgressions,  
C **and my sin is ever before me.**

P Against you, you only,  
have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,  
C **so that you may be justified in your words and**  
**blameless in your judgment.**

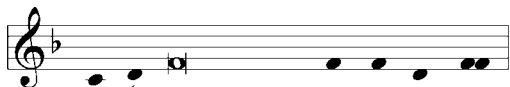
P Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
C **and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

P Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,  
C **and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

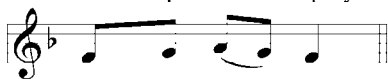
All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the**  
**Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and**  
**will be forever. Amen.**

P Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
C **according to your abundant mercy**  
**blot out my transgressions.**

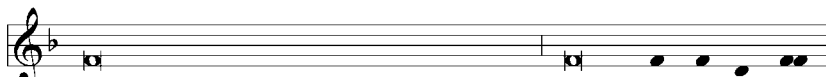
### Kyrie



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



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



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



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



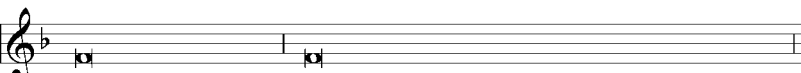
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



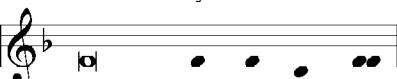
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



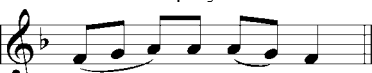
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



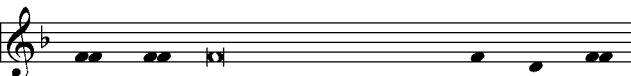
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



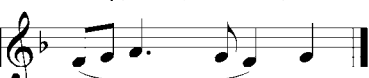
let us pray to the Lord.



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



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only

**C Amen.**

**Choir Anthem**                  *"Lamb of God"*                  Twila Paris  
choral setting by Lloyd Larson

*Isaiah 12:1-6*

24“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

6

Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### Verse for Lent

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in  
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### Holy Gospel (*please stand*)

*Luke 15:1-3; 11-32*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him

into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger!’ <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

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

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

*(be seated)*

**Children's Message**



## Hymn of the Day

*“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”*

LSB #438

## Sermon

### Nicene Creed *(please stand)*

**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)*

## Presentation of the Offering

## Offertory



**G** 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.

## Prayers of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs:

(After each portion of the prayers)

**P** Lord, in your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we  
pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our  
Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Sacrament

**Preface** (*please stand*)

**P** The Lord be with you.

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

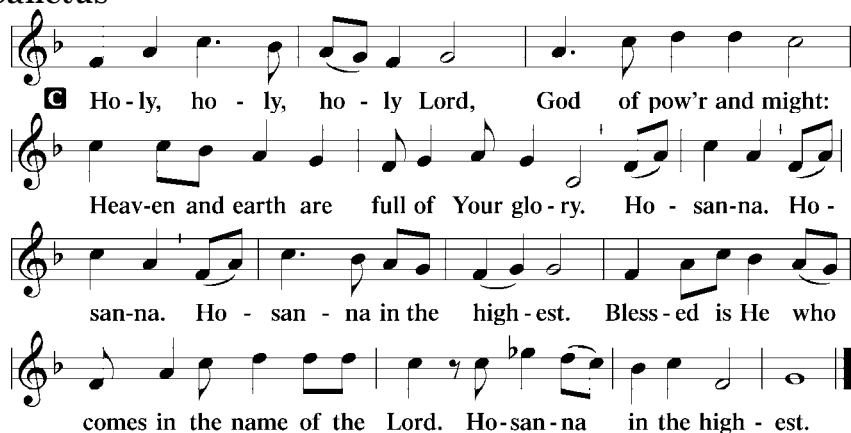
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**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 salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat

His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C      Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**P      Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:**

**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."**

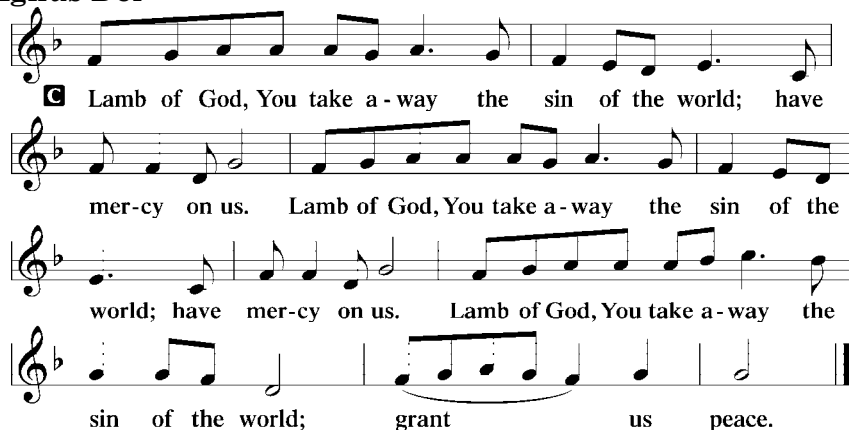
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My (+) blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **Pax Domini**

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

**C      Amen.**

## Agnus Dei



**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 (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

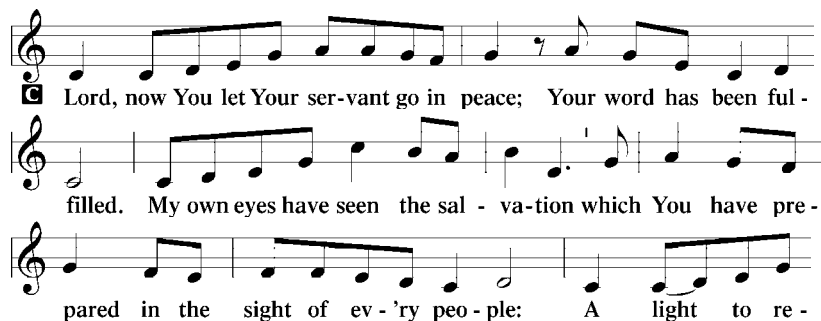
"Christ the Life of All the Living"

LSB #420

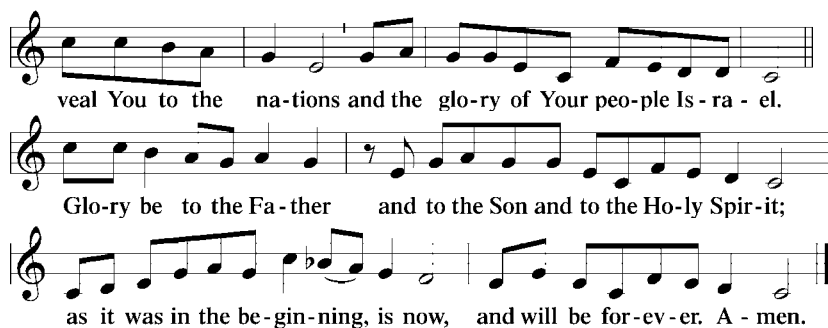
"Rock of Ages"

LSB #761

## Nunc Dimittis (please stand)



**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-  
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



### Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent You only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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.

**Closing Hymn**                      *“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”*                      LSB #919

### Silent Prayer

*(be seated)*

### Postlude

*“Soli Deo Gloria”*

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