

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 20, 2025

"In Nomine Iesu"

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Welcome to St. Paul's and a blessed Easter morning to you!!! This day is one of the most important days of all and is the source of all other holy days within the church year. For, as Paul says, "If Christ had not risen from the dead, our faith is in vain, and we are still in our sins" (1 Cor. 15:17). But thanks be to God that Jesus has risen! Alleluia!

Today churches throughout the world boldly proclaim the fact that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. That the very One who was sacrificed on the cross for the forgiveness of sins, is the same One who rose to claim victory over sin, death, and the devil. The resurrection is not only foundational for our faith, but it is living proof of God's faithful love to us. And so our service this morning spills over in shouts of joy and praise to Jesus, our ever-living Savior! He is risen! Alleluia!

# Christ has risen. Alleluia!

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. St. Paul's congregation practices "fellowship communion." By this we mean that those who commune at our altar confess a unity in faith with us and the fellow members in our Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. Please check the questions on the back of the white attendance card. We invite our members and guests from sister congregations to share in this celebration. If you wish to commune at St. Paul's for the first time, please speak with a Pastor or an usher before the service.

All members and guests are asked to fill out the registration card found in your pew rack and hand it to an usher when you leave. Have a blessed day.

# Prelude Welcome and Announcements Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bell

(Please stand, turn, and face the entrance to the sanctuary and follow the cross to its place in the chancel.)

**Opening Hymn** "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" LSB #457

# Invocation

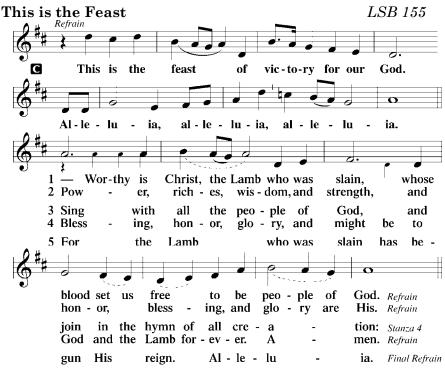
- P In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P This is the day the Lord has made!
- C Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
- P People of God, Good Friday was not the end of God's story! Our God is the God of the living! Jesus Christ has risen to save you! He has risen to give you life! The tomb is empty! He has risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P No more will death and sin have any power over us! God's perfect plan of salvation has been accomplished, for Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P And so, if Christ has been raised from the dead, so also will all believers be raised to eternal life, for Jesus Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- 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.

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



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#### Salutation

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

#### Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

C Amen.

(be seated)

#### Choir Anthem "Early in the Mornin' on Easter Day" Text: John Parker; Music: Lloyd Larson

#### **First Reading**

Isaiah 65:17-25

<sup>17</sup> "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. <sup>18</sup> But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. <sup>19</sup> I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. <sup>20</sup> No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. <sup>21</sup> They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup> They shall not build and another inhabit;

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they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup> They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. <sup>24</sup> Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

<sup>25</sup> The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

# **Epistle Reading**

# 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

<sup>19</sup> If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

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

Holy Gospel (please stand) Luke 24:1-12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup> And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." <sup>8</sup> And they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, <sup>11</sup> but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup> But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(be seated)

# Children's Message

**Hymn** *"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"* LSB #633

# 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**

# **Prayer of the Church**

(After each portion of the prayers) P Lord, in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.** 

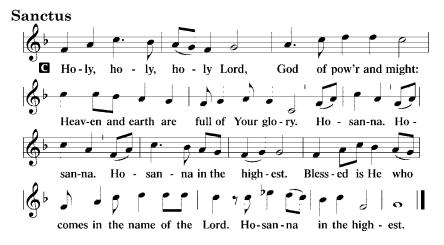
- P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.
- C Amen.

# **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.

# **Proper Preface**

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



# Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You loved the world so much that You gave your only Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks for His entire obedient life of service, His sacrificial death, and His glorious resurrection. Gathered in His name, we ask You to bless us as we partake of His body and His blood. Strengthen us thereby to witness to His rising; and grant us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation which come to us in this sacrament. To you, O Father, with the Son and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### Lord's Prayer

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.

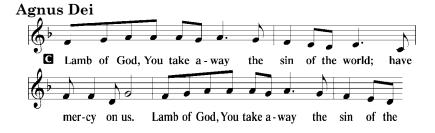
# The Words of Our Lord

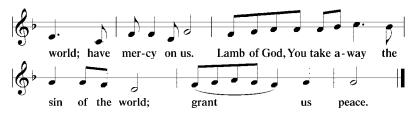
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My (+) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

> 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.





# **Distribution** (be seated)

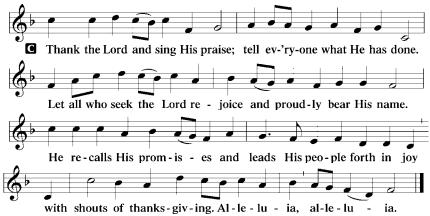
(All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.

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**

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"LSB #475"I Know That My Redeemer Lives"LSB #461"Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia"LSB #463

Thank the Lord (please stand)



# **Post-Communion Thanksgiving**

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, gracious Lord, we give thanks that You have refreshed us through this foretaste of the feast to come. Grant us strength and guidance that we may be Your messengers of pardon and peace each day until faith gives way to sight at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

# **Benediction**

P	Alleluia! Christ is risen!		
C	He is risen indeed! Alleluia!		
Р	The stone has been rolled away! Alleluia!		
С	The crucified One is risen! Alleluia!		
Р	Christ has conquered death by the cross!		
С	<b>He has left the tomb empty!</b>		
Р	Christ has risen and will never die again!		
<b>С</b>	<b>Death has been swallowed up in victory!</b>		
P C	<ul> <li>The Lord bless you and keep you.</li> <li>The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.</li> <li>The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace.</li> <li>Amen.</li> </ul>		
Р	Alleluia! Christ is risen!		
С	He is risen indeed! Alleluia!		
Clos	sing Hymn	"This Joyful Eastertide"	LSB #482
Sile	nt Prayer		
		(be seated)	
Post	tlude	"Soli Dei Gloria"	

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