



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

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

“In Nomine Iesu”

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Savior, Servant, Friend

Redeemer

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!

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. 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. Speak to Pastor or an usher if you would like to commune at St. Paul's for the first time.

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bell

Theme Verse: *I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.* John 15:15

Invocation and Call to Worship (*please stand*)

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Our friend Jesus lives!

C **To forgive our sins and heal our wounds!**

P Our friend Jesus lives!

C **To listen to our prayers and encourage us!**

P Our friend Jesus lives!

C **To protect us from all harm and bring us comfort!**

P Our friend Jesus lives!

C **To be our King, Servant and Savior!**

P Our friend Jesus lives!

C **What a friend we have in Jesus!**

(be seated)

Opening Hymn *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives!"* LSB #461

Vs 2 Choir Only

Vs 4 Choir Only

Confession and Forgiveness (*please stand*)

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Jesus has left the tomb empty to empty sin of its power. Just as the stone was rolled away from the tomb on that first Easter morning, O Holy Spirit, roll away the stones from our hearts. Enable us to confess our sins, repent of them and receive Christ's forgiveness.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!**

Lord, have mercy!

P O Lord, we bring before you all of our sins—what we have said and done, what we have failed to say and do.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!**
Lord, have mercy!

P O Lord, we bring before you all of our sins—the pride and arrogance, the gossip and slander, the hurtful thoughts and words.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!**
Lord, have mercy!

P O Lord, we bring before you all of our sins—the lust and disobedience, the selfishness and rebellion, the greed and gluttony.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!**
Lord, have mercy!

*(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great,
Christ's love is greater.)*

P Your Redeemer lives! He lives, he lives, who once was dead. Your Redeemer and friend, Christ Jesus, forgives you of all of your sins. Just as the tomb was left empty, Jesus has emptied sin of its power over you, and he has set you free. Know that your Redeemer lives, and know that your Redeemer declares to you: Your sins are forgiven!

C **What a friend we have in Jesus!**

Prayer of the Day

P Lord Jesus, what a Redeemer you are! You free us to live a new life as your holy and redeemed people. By the very same power that overcame the grave and left the tomb empty, empower us to live with great hope, joy, celebration and peace. Place in our mouths the great Good News that our Redeemer lives. We pray in your name, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

(be seated)

Choir Anthem “*He Is the Risen Lord*” by Joseph M Martin

Old Testament Reading

Job 19:23-27a

Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were engraved in the rock forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Galatians 3:13-14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading (*please stand*)

John 20:1-18

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth,

which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

P This is the Gospel 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

Sermon Hymn *"Jesus Christ is Risen Today!"* LSB #457

Sermon

Presentation of the Offering

Musical Offering *"The Spotless Lamb"* Charity Boyles

Prayers

P Lord God, you are mighty to roll away stones and leave tombs empty. You are mighty to wipe away our sins and set us free. We come before you now with our prayers and petitions knowing your mighty promises to hear our prayers and answer them according to your wisdom and knowledge.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Risen Redeemer, roll away the stones from our hearts and souls, opening us up to come before you just as we are.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Risen Redeemer, deliver us from all doubt and despair,
draw us back from our wandering and return us to live
for you alone.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Risen Redeemer, protect this world from the enemies of
peace, grant safety to the vulnerable and guide the work
of our leaders with wisdom and truth.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Risen Redeemer, empower your church to be witnesses
of the empty tomb, heralds of resurrection joy and
peacemakers in the name of our friend Jesus.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Risen Redeemer, heal the brokenness of our hearts and
minds, souls and bodies, so that we can live as your
redeemed and restored people now and for all eternity.

C **Lord, hear our prayer.**

P Risen Redeemer, you live to bless us with your love; you
live to plead for us above; you live our hungry souls to
feed; you live to help us in our time of need. Let us live
knowing that our Redeemer lives.

C **What a Redeemer we have in Jesus. Amen.**

Hymn Setting for Holy Communion

Preface (*please stand*)

(sung to the tune “The Church’s One Foundation” LSB #644)

P The Lord is with His people;
Now may He be with you.

C **The Lord is with His servants
May He be with you, too.**

P Now lift your hearts to praise Him.

C **To God we lift them high.
‘Tis right to praise and thank Him
Who to His world draws nigh.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P It is truly meet, 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:

The Sanctus

(Tune: "O Sons and Daughters of the King" LSB #470)

**Holy are You, the heav'nly King!
With angel hosts we join to sing,
"Your majesty fills ev'rything!"
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Holy are You, our Lord most high!
Blessed is He who now draws nigh
In God's own name! With Joy we cry:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Holy are You, through endless days!
Our glad hosanna now we raise
To greet You with exalted praise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Lord's Prayer

L 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

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

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

(Tune "*Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*" LSB #741)

**Lamb of God, You take away
All the sinful world's transgression;
Let Your mercy now, we pray,
And Your peace be our possession.
Grant us from our sin release;
Lord, have mercy, 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

<i>“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”</i>	LSB #633
<i>“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”</i>	LSB #477
<i>“Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia”</i>	LSB #466

Post-Communion Thanksgiving *(please stand)*

(Tune: *“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”* LSB #461)

**Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure
And steadfast love fore’er endure!
Our eyes have seen, our ears have heard,
And we have tasted of His word**

**As His own servants we depart
With His salvation in our heart
His saving power He has made known;
His love through all the earth is shown.**

**Lord, let us show the world Your light;
Let us declare our glory bright,
Proclaim Your death until You come
To take Your ransomed servants home.**

**Glory to God, the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure
And steadfast love fore’er endure!**

Benediction

P Go now, knowing that your Redeemer—Christ Jesus—
lives and frees us to live a new life of resurrection peace
and power, joy and jubilee. Amen.

C **Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

(be seated)

Closing Hymn

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing” LSB #475

“Soli Deo Gloria”

