

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)
The Resurrection of Our LORD, Easter Sunday
Sunday, April 20, 2025 – 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Divine Service

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Choir Director: Mark Howard

Special Music: Saint Paul's Choir

Guest Musicians: Blake Crabtree, *Trumpet*

Jayden Peng, *Trumpet*

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

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Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus

16355 Laguna Canyon Rd

Irvine, CA 92618

Mission

To foster the freedom and love we share in Christ to the community by nurturing faith in Him through tangible expressions of God's grace.

Vision

To share the Truth and Love of Christ to all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.

Service Offerings

- Easter Sunday Divine Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am
 - Easter Fellowship Breakfast in the café at 9:30 am
 - Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 am
- Next Sunday: 4/27 Divine Service at 9:30 am
 - Fellowship in Café 10:30 am. Adult Bible Study 11:00 am
- Wednesday Bible Studies at 10 am and 7:15 pm in our church offices. You may come in person or join us via TEAMS fully interactive.

Welcome to Saint Paul's

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any

denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We are excited about what the Lord is doing at Saint Paul's, and it is our great joy to serve you!

This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News:

God sent His Son Jesus Christ to take your sin upon Himself and Jesus gave to you His perfect righteousness and holiness. In Christ, it is a fact, and it is reality that your sins are forgiven, covered by His blood. And because Christ defeated death, you too – as you trust in Him alone – have eternal life. This is the Good News. It is so powerful because the Holy Spirit works through it to create and sustain faith in our hearts to hold to our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel costs Jesus everything but costs us nothing. It is yours. It is God's GIFT to you. Hold to it and know that you ARE (present tense) saved from sin, death, and the power of the devil; that you are saved TO (present tense) the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! That's the Christian, a forgiven sinner who lives for God and loves their neighbor. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

The Lord's Supper

The Holy Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed**, are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, **are asked first to speak to one of the pastors.**

Prayer Before Divine Service

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the

preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude:

Psalm XIX -- Benedetto Marcello

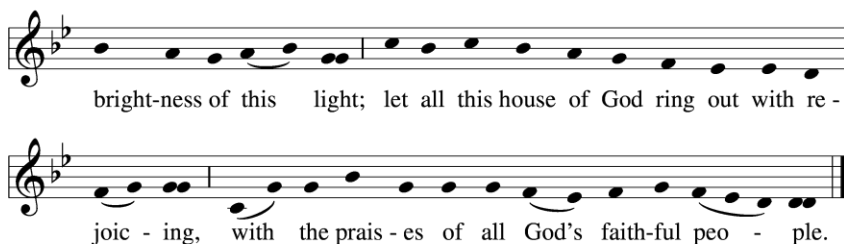
Paschal Candle Processional

Please stand and face the processional cross (order of processional: Crucifer, Book Bearer, Paschal Candle Bearer, Pastor Mueller, Pastor Espinosa)

Exsultet (chanted by Pastor Mueller)



A Re - jice now, all you heav'n - ly choirs of an - gels; re - jice now, all
cre - a - tion; sound forth, trum-pet of sal - va - tion, and pro-claim
the tri - umph of our King. Re - jice too, all the earth,
in the radiance of the light now poured up - on you
and made brilliant by the brightness of the ev - er-last-ing King;
know that the an - cient dark - ness has been for - ev -
er ban - ished. Re - jice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the



Easter Acclamation

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

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 167

- 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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 167

- 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.

Absolution

LSB 167

- 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

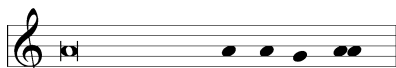
Entrance Hymn:

482 This Joyful Eastertide

(10:30am) Stanza 2: Choir

Kyrie

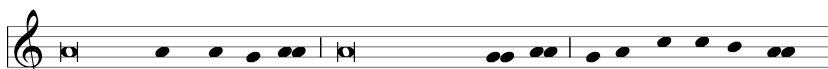
LSB 168



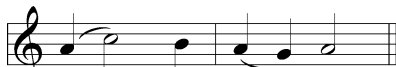
A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



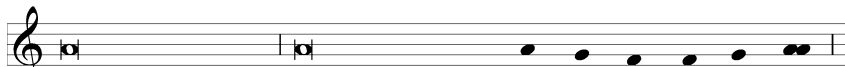
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



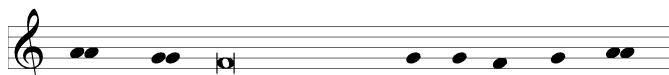
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 171



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



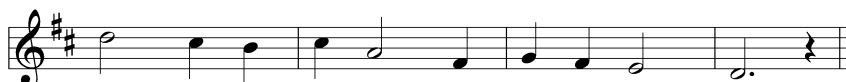
C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:
 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17–25

- ¹⁷"Behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.
- ¹⁸But 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.
- ¹⁹I 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.
- ²⁰No 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.
- ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- ²²They shall not build and another inhabit;
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.
- ²³They 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.
- ²⁴Before they call I will answer;
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
- ²⁵The 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6



Christ has risen | from the dead.*

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.

He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands;*

he has put all things un- | der his feet.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:19–26

¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

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

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



Holy Gospel

Luke 24:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ²And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵And 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? ⁶He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." ⁸And they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now 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, ¹¹but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But 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.



Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day:

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns

(10:30am) Stanza 4: Choir

Sermon

"But In Fact"

(1 Corinthians 15:19-26)

Pastor Espinosa

Introduction: Do You Really Believe All This?

- A. A visitor who came to church one day.
- B. Parents at an LCMS high school surprised at the tech guy on AI (a real Christian!)
- C. The popular veneer and hedging of bets.
- D. Why the doubts? Because of the resurrection! Think about what Christ said to Martha: John 11:25-26.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. **Do you believe this?”**

E. The difference between the true Christian faith and the flowery versions without substance (beware of "believing in God" and "doing good").

Part I: What's more difficult: to create the universe out of nothing or to come back to life?

- A. The atheist's' challenge: How does that which is spiritual create that which is material?
- B. The Christian answer: Your universe is too small.
- C. So, is God spiritual or physical? Yes!

Part II: Faith Founded On Fact:

- A. The Holy Scriptures and miracles
- B. The Historical Evidence of Christ Alive after He died
- C. Apostles, martyrs, and the Universal Church

Part III: Implications:

- A. Let's define death.
- B. Your body is invaluable, and God will back that up (why Jesus' resurrection is called "firstfruits," 1 Cor. 15:20, 23).
- C. The LIFE:

1. People who don't live for themselves.

2. People who give their lives away.

3. People who have nothing to lose (except their faith in Christ the Resurrection).

Example: The Christian mother who was told she could not stop chemotherapy while she was pregnant.

Conclusion:

- A. The enigma of my seminary classmate
- B. The scientist who went from smirk to smile
- C. Everything Jesus teaches is true including what applies to you!

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☐ 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.**

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P In thanksgiving for Christ's glorious resurrection, that by His death for the world's reconciliation and in the promise of new and everlasting life we may come at last to the reunion of all His saints at the resurrection of all flesh, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For boldness from God's Holy Spirit, that we may be renewed in witness, sustained in trial and refreshed through the Means of Grace; for those who bring us the Lord's gifts and preach us the Word, that they would be blessed in their calling; and for all God's people, that we may receive this Easter faith with willing ears and keep it with willing hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our homes, that Christ would give them peace and enliven them with His resurrected life; that He would cause the forgiveness of sins to reign among husbands and wives, parents and children; and that He would assure those who live alone that they, too, are His children, upheld by His right hand, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For Donald, our president, and all who make and administer our laws, that God would frustrate the forces of evil and not let our leaders cooperate with them or further their goals; and for our armed forces as they stand watch for us at home and abroad, that they would serve with honor and integrity, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and those who suffer, [especially _____ and those named in our hearts,] that they would receive healing and relief, patience and hope until that day when Christ raises our bodies and brings all afflictions to an end, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who prepare to receive the body and blood of Christ, that celebrating the feast of His victory, our faith may be strengthened for this mortal life and our anticipation built for the marriage supper of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P O Lord, heavenly Father, You have not let Your Holy One see corruption, but have raised Him in triumph from the dead, never to die again. Therefore, our hearts are glad and we rejoice, for our flesh also dwells

secure. Since You have set Him at Your right hand, lead us to set His resurrection before us at all times, that His path of life and the fullness of joy in His presence may be known to us, until we come also to the eternal pleasures at His right hand, forevermore; for You, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering: Awake, My Heart, With Gladness -- Michael Burkhardt

Stand

Offertory

LSB 176



C 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.

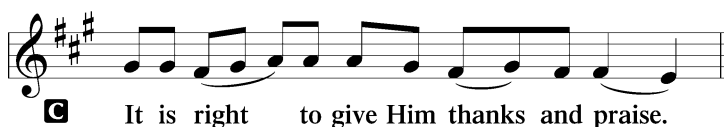
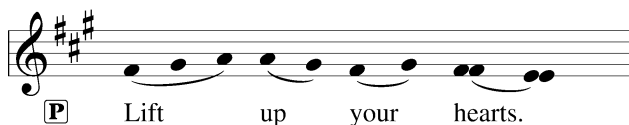
+ Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing +

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 instructs pastors since they are stewards of the mysteries (1st Corinthians 4:1) to serve only those who share in a common confession. If you are still learning about our confession and not yet confirmed, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. Pastor would love to meet with you to prepare you to receive the Holy Sacrament.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177



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:

Sanctus

LSB 178



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. 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

LSB 178

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.

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."

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

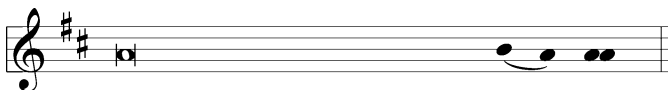
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

Pax Domini

LSB 180



- P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180

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, grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymns:

463 Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia

All 4 Stanzas

465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

All 4 Stanzas

464 The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

All 5 Stanzas

480 He's Risen, He's Risen

All 5 Stanzas

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joyce and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

A 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 in 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 A - men.

Benediction

LSB 183

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.



Closing Hymn:

461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

(10:30am) Stanza 4: Choir / Stanza 6: Trumpets Only

Postlude:

Toccata from Fifth Symphony -- CM Widor

Acknowledgments

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Today:

Easter Fellowship Breakfast & Egg Hunt – Today Between Services!

Following the 8:00 AM service today, join us in the café area for an Easter fellowship potluck breakfast around **9:30 AM**. After breakfast, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt around **10:00 AM** on the front lawn by the main entrance of the CUI Spectrum Building. Come and enjoy this time of fun and fellowship as we celebrate the resurrection of our Risen Lord!

Journey through the Parables will NOT meet today

Our *Journey Through the Parables* study group will not meet today to allow for extended time between services for the Easter Fellowship Breakfast and Easter Egg hunt. Bible Study will be meeting next week.

This week:

Wednesday Bible Studies: Returns April 23rd

Wednesday Bible Studies Are Back April 23rd! We're excited to announce that our **Wednesday Bible Studies** will **resume on April 23**, beginning with **Hebrews Chapter 11 – the Hall of Faith**.

Join us as we explore the powerful testimonies of faith that continue to inspire and encourage believers today.

Study times: 10:00 AM & 7:15 PM (In Person & on Microsoft Teams)

All are welcome! Whether you prefer to meet in person or join virtually, we'd love to have you there. For more information or to access the virtual study, please contact **Pastor Espinosa** at

revdrespinosa@saintpaulsirvine.com

Let's grow together in faith — we hope to see you there!

Pastor Espinosa Out of Office 4/24-4/28

Please contact Pastor Robert Dargatz at 714-474-3444 for pastoral emergencies. Pastor Espinosa will return to regular availability on 4/29.

Coming Up:

Chosen Bible Study

Group #1 will be meeting at the Kuntz family's home on **Friday, May 2nd**. Saint Paul's now has two *The Chosen* Bible Study groups that meet once per month. If you are interested in the next meeting, please speak to Pastor.

Congregational Voters Meeting: May 4

Topic—Approval of the revised Constitution and Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee has been working for about a year on reviewing and revising the Saint Paul's Constitution and Bylaws, originally written in 1947. The committee was comprised of experts and consultants from within and outside our Saint Paul's membership. The proposed changes were presented to the Church Council, wherein the Council made additional recommendations. The final draft will be available for review in the Church office on Easter Sunday (2 weeks before the vote) and on our website. The voters' meeting content will focus on the significant changes recommended, after which we will conduct a vote.

Please take the time to review in advance of this meeting.

God's blessings to our Saint Paul's church family!

Debbie Dannemeyer, President

General Announcements

Church Council Treasurer's Report

YTD Totals: Jan - March 25

Category	Actual	Budget
General Offerings	\$55,749.00	\$72,500.00
Other Offerings	\$209.00	\$412.00
Total Income	\$55,958.00	\$72,912.00

25-March Totals:

Category	Actual	Budget
General Offerings	\$20,331.00	\$27,900.00
Other Offerings	\$72.00	\$138.00
Total Income	\$20,403.00	\$28,038.00

The Bulletin Board

Life Quote:

April 20 “Perhaps as our culture seems to be increasingly more challenging, it may help to think of hope as the complete opposite of despair. Hope is not optional for the believer. Our hope is secure because, as we all say again, ‘Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!’” *John Stonestreet – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Stewardship Message:

April 20 – Easter

Mark 16:6 – “And he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; He is not here.’” Jesus is risen, but is that Good News? What if He is mad at us for betraying Him, for running away at Gethsemane, for not believing He would rise? The Good News is not just that Jesus is risen; the Good News is that He is risen to bless us. There is no need to be alarmed. He still calls us His friends and brothers and means to bring us through death to resurrection as well. The Lord is risen — He is risen indeed!

Quilting Team Needs Your Help!

The **Quilting Team at Saint Paul’s** is in need of **cardboard boxes** for storing and shipping quilts. If you have any boxes to donate, we would greatly appreciate your support!

Additionally, if you’re interested in joining our **quilting team**, we would love to have you. No experience is necessary—just a heart for giving and a willingness to learn!

For donations or more information, please contact **Myra Taylor at 949-636-3431**.

Thank you for supporting this meaningful ministry!

Women’s Retreat Update

Laura Miller and Pastor Espinosa recently met to discuss the next steps for our 2025 Women's Retreat. We are planning a one-day event on **Saturday, August 9**, at an affordable location in Dana Point.

Pastor Espinosa will present on the topic **“The Power of Confession”**, which is the same theme he will cover at the Men's Retreat from September 19-21. His presentation will be divided into three parts:

1. Confession of **Sin**
2. Confession of **Faith**
3. Confession of **Praise**

If you are interested in attending this one-day retreat, please inform Laura Miller 949-441-8606 or Pastor Espinosa.

Circle of Friends

The most effective way for a church to grow in the Kingdom of God is to be faithful in the Word and Sacrament of Christ and to truly love people. One way to do that is to allow us to pray for those you know who need Christ and/or a church home. Please submit the names of family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and others to us through our ministry called Circle of Friends.

Thank you! Pastor Espinosa.

For those we care about to come to saving faith and have a church home. Have a friend who needs prayer or would like a meeting with pastor? Use this QR code to let us know!



Join Us for Family Sunday School!

Family Sunday School is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith, learn together, and connect as a community! Last Sunday, we had the joy of welcoming four children and their families for story time with one of our amazing volunteers after the service.

Each Sunday, we offer a kid-friendly space where families can watch the service together. This space includes supplemental church resources and activities to keep children engaged, based on the needs of the families in attendance.

If you're a young family looking for a welcoming place to nurture your faith—without having to keep your kiddos calm in the sanctuary (or chasing them down the hallway)—we'd love for you to join us!

Interested in volunteering? We'd love your help! Please reach out to Miles or Jackie Johnson at office@saintpaulsirvine.com.

Thank you for being a blessing to our church family! ♥

Upcoming Event Dates:

- **Concordia University Irvine - Senior Art Capstone Exhibition:** April 23, 5:30–7:30 PM at Grimm Hall

Please consider supporting our senior congregation members as they showcase their artwork.

- **Vacation Bible School (VBS):** July 21–25

VBS will be held this summer at Irvine Park. If you are interested in volunteering, please talk to Jackie or Miles Johnson. An informational meeting will be held in April to begin the planning process.

- **Higher Things Conference:** July 29–August 1

The mission of Higher Things is to make the gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth and young adults. Saint Paul's will be taking a group of young adults to the conference at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, MI. For more information, please talk to Pastor Espinosa.

Worship Attendance for Members & Guests

Scan the QR code or use the iPads at the Welcome Table to sign in. **Guests**, please sign the guestbook at the entrance.

Offerings: Collected during the worship service. All contributions are voluntary.





Requesting Announcements

To request an announcement for the congregation or community, submit your request via the QR code or this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Hsgrm6zAup>.

Choose where you want it published: bulletin, email, website, livestream, etc.

Daily Bible Devotionals – 2025

Join Pastor Espinosa in reading through the Holy Bible in 2025!

Follow along daily on:

✦ **Facebook:** @AlfonsoEspinosa

✦ **TikTok:** @alfonsoespinosa356

✦ **Instagram:** @alfonsoespinosa88

Let's rejoice as God strengthens our faith through His Word!

Want devotionals sent to your inbox? Please email

office@saintpaulsirvine.com to be added to the list.

Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers for **Ushers, Altar Guild, Welcome Table, Transportation Services, and Visiting Shut-Ins**. If interested, please contact **Mark Kuntz**. We also need help with **Livestream, Family Sunday School, Quilting & Fellowship Team**. Please reach out to office@saintpaulsirvine.com if you can assist.

Thank you for serving our congregation!

Words of Evangelism: Ch. 5 – Gospel

From the Evangelism Committee. There are three points you should remember when sharing the Gospel. First, death and guilt are universal problems. Second, there are two religions in the world; Christianity and all others. Third, remember the Gospel. Christ has died for you and your sins and gives you eternal life.

Let's talk about this third point. Let's talk about the Gospel. The Gospel is the Good News. It is the heart and core of our faith.

Remember the Gospel. Jesus Christ has died for you and your sins so that you may have eternal life. "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God." (Rom 5:8-9) Remember the Gospel. Christ has died for you and your sins so that you may have eternal life. "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." (John 1:29) Remember the Gospel. Christ has died for you and your sins so that you may have eternal life. "For God so loved the

world that he gave his only Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

When sharing your faith with others, always come back and return to the Gospel. It is the message that saves you, us, and them. Constantly come back to it and return to it in your conversations. It is the message that saves us and that everyone needs to hear. Remember the Gospel.

O Lord, of the two universal problems, death and guilt, only belief in you solves both of them. Always keep the Gospel close to our hearts, o God, and do not allow us to be ashamed of it. Let us proclaim like Paul that, “I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.” (Rom 1:16) Please Lord, instill within us a heart that longs to share the Gospel with our circle of friends – including our family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Amen.

Please Pray for our Missionaries, Council Members & Elders

Missionaries Supported by Saint Paul’s

(Financial gifts given annually to the national synod)

Missionary	Location
Rev. Daniel & Kathy Conrad <i>Please send mail through the LCMS directly.</i>	Dominican Republic
Erin Mackenzie Email: erin.mackenzie@lcms.org	Latin America & Caribbean
Britt Odemba Email: britt.odemba@lcms.org	Kenya
Rev. Dr. Tom Park Email: tom.park@lcms.org	Taiwan

Missionary Friends

(Non-Financial Support)

Missionary	Role	Location
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Tirzah Krey Email: tirzah.krey@lcms.org	Regional Human Care Coordinator	Latin America & Caribbean
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If you are interested in mailing a letter or giving a donation directly to our missionaries, please send mail directly to the LCMS with the specific Missionaries name in the attention line:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

ATTN: (enter missionaries name here)

P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Local Evangelism Support

- **Rev. Mark Jasa** – Saint Paul’s supports our local evangelist.

Saint Paul’s Parish Council Members

Debbie Dannemeyer – President ~ **Matt Bures** – Recording Secretary ~ **Ken Mott** – Treasurer

Laura Miller – Financial Secretary ~ **Jon Rutherford** – Trustee Director ~ **Ali Frank** – Stewardship Director

Mark Kuntz – Presiding Elder ~ **Renee Mott** – Fellowship Director ~ **Bradley Hustad** – Evangelism Director

Jacob Thornblad – Education Director ~ **Miles & Jackie Johnson** – Youth Directors

Saint Paul’s Elders

Mark Kuntz (Presiding Elder) ~ **Bruce Dannemeyer** ~ **Bryan Kilduff** ~ **John Church** ~ **Jon Steele** ~ **Karl Blanke**

Michael Padilla ~ **Steve Fischer** ~ **Ricky Cuenca** ~ **Alex Padilla**

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Team</u>	<u>Ushers/Greeter</u>	<u>Elders on Duty</u>	<u>Entrance Area</u>	<u>Livestream</u>
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Mei Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Mark Kuntz</i>	<i>Kiu Geisler</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
3 rd Sunday 4/20/2025	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank and Ed Miller	Bryan Kilduff	Cindy Kilduff	Jon Steele
4 th Sunday 4/27/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Anne Wright	Paul and Samuel Hines	John Church, Jon Steele	Anne Wright	Jon Steele
1 st Sunday 5/4/2025	Nina Mueller Myra Taylor	Barney Wright, Al Ibrahim	Alex Padilla, Bruce Dannemeyer	Kiu Geisler	Jim J.
2nd Sunday 5/11/2025	Elizabeth Brothwell, Mei Kuntz	Don and Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Padilla, Mark Kuntz	Myra Taylor	Jim J.

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

3rd Sunday 4/20/2025	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer
4 th Sunday 4/27/2025	Gary & Daisy Minter, Renee Mott
1 st Sunday 5/3/2025	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard
2nd Sunday 5/11/2025	Espinosa's

If you are a volunteer and believe this schedule does not accurately reflect your assigned service days or would like to update an announcement, please email Jackie at office@saintpaulsirvine.com.