

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)

Holy Thursday
Thursday, April 2, 2026

Divine Service: 7:00 pm

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.*

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more:



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.

Saint Paul's Staff:

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

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

Vicar: Miles Johnson

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Choir Director: Mark Howard

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

Holy Week at Saint Paul's

Holy Thursday, April 2

- 7: 00 pm- Maundy Thursday Divine Service: 7th and 8th Commandments: Concord

Good Friday, April 3

- 9:00 am: Morning Service: 9th and 10th Commandments: Prudence
- 7:00 pm: Evening Service: 9th and 10th Commandments: Prudence

The High Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord: Sunday, April 5

- 8 am: Divine Service: "Raised with Christ" (Colossians 3:1-4)
- 9:30 am: Easter Breakfast Potluck AND Easter Egg Hunt for the Children
- 10:30 am: Divine Service: "Raised with Christ" (Colossians 3:1-4)

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude

O Mankind, Bewail Your Grievous Sin -- JS Bach

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

P I will go to the altar of God,

C to God my exceeding joy.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Sit

Confessional Address

- P** During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since we intend to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord on this night of its institution, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This Sacrament has been instituted for the comfort of those who are troubled because of sin and who confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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." It is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We do this in remembrance of Him, proclaiming that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. With heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved

us. As our Lord exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Stand

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 20:15–16; 24:3

20:15 "You shall not steal. 16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

24:4 Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Ephesians 4:24–32

Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. 26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and give no opportunity to the devil. 28 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. 29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:17–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. ²¹ And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²² And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" ²³ He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." ²⁵ Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so." ²⁶ Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon Hymn:

LSB 446 Jesus, Greatest at the Table

Sermon: Concord

The 7th & 8th Commandments
Pastor Mueller

Prayer of the Church

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

Everlasting Father, Your Son offered Himself through the eternal Spirit as a sacrifice without blemish. By His sacrifice, purify our conscience from dead works, that we may serve You always. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, as Your people of old pledged to keep all that You had spoken, let us be found faithful. Give Your Church faithful pastors and ministers. Grant that they know the riches of Your grace and, in peace and righteousness, serve You, the only God. As we live together as your people, grant us concord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God and Father, be the source of strength and comfort in every home. Bless our children, that every darkness would be lightened by Your Son's presence. Preserve them from danger, guide them by Your word, and keep them firm in the faith until life's end. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P In this world filled with war, conflict and terror, give us wise leaders, O Lord, and preserve us from harm. Guide those who make and administer our laws to act prudently. Give to all judges knowledge to render justice with mercy. Bless all military, emergency and medical workers here and abroad. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear our prayers for all those who are sick. Refresh them in their suffering, comfort them with Your word and nourish them in body and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, Your Son gathered His disciples on the night He was betrayed, and He gathers us around His altar now to receive His body and blood. Forgive our sins by this Sacrament, and sanctify us to proclaim His death with boldness until He comes again. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

My song is Love Unknown -- Michael Burkhardt

+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.

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

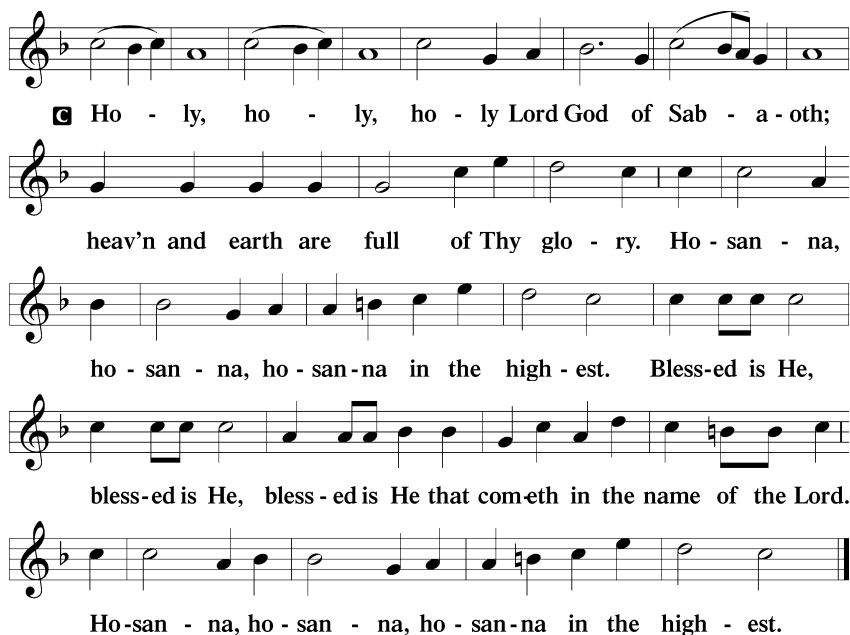
Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. 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 Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, 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.

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning

857 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

Stand

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 Amen.

Sit

Stripping of the Altar

The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn services of Good Friday.

Psalm 22



P ¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my
groaning?

2O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,*
and by night, but I | find no rest.

**³Yet you are | holy,*
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.**

**⁴In you our fathers | trusted;*
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.**

⁵To you they cried and were | rescued;*
in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

**⁶But I am a worm and | not a man,*
scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.**

⁷All who see me | mock me;*
they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

8“He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;*
let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”

**⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;*
you made me trust you at my | mother's breasts.**

**¹⁰On you was I cast | from my birth,*
and from my mother's womb you have | been my God.**

**11 Be not far from me,
for trouble | is near,*
and there is | none to help.**

¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;*
strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;

¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,*
like a ravening and roaring | lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are | out of joint;*

my heart is like wax;
it is melted with- | in my breast;

¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;*
you lay me in the | dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me;*
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my | hands and feet—

¹⁷I can count | all my bones—*
they stare and gloat | over me;

¹⁸they divide my garments a- | mong them,*
and for my clothing they | cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!*
O you my help, come quickly | to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,*
my precious life from the power | of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!*

You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen!

²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers;*
in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,*
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel!

²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his | face from him,*
but has heard, when he | cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;*
my vows I will perform before those who | fear him.

26The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!*
May your hearts live for- | ever!

27All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn | to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations
shall worship be- | fore you.

28For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*
and he rules over the | nations.

29All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;*
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.

30Posterity shall | serve him;*
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;

31they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet
unborn,*
that he has | done it.

All leave the church in silence.

Acknowledgments

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Announcements

THIS SUNDAY! Easter Fellowship Breakfast – Help Needed!
Join us **Easter Sunday, April 5, at 9:30am (between services)**
for a Breakfast Potluck! Bring a dish to share—casserole, fruit,
pastries, or a family favorite—and enjoy sweet fellowship
together.

Sign up this Sunday during fellowship to help us plan.

Questions? **Renee Mott | 650-438-4791**

Inviting all Young Adults!

We will be having a beach day as well as an Easter Vigil Bonfire with Evening Prayer and Bible Study at Huntington State Beach @ 3:00 pm

Saturday, April 4th. Please scan the QR code to RSVP.

Note: due to Easter being the next day, Evening Prayer will not end late 😊

Join our online Young Adult's community! Text "Lamplight" to 714-403-2338

