

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Service: 9:30 am & 2:00 pm (*acapella*)

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.*

Scan the QR Code for Website,
Contact Info, Church Events &
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

This Week at Saint Paul's:

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 26:

- 9:30 am: Divine Service- Pastor Mueller
- 11:00 am: Bible Study Vicar Miles Johnson Missions (Part 2)
- 2 pm: Matins- Sermon by CFW Walter (Led by Vicar Johnson) *"The Third Sunday of Easter"*

Tuesday, April 27:

- 7:30 am: Patron's Men's Bible Study (Corona del Mar)

Wednesday, April 28:

- 9:00 am: Divine Service - Pastor Espinosa
- 10:00 am: Bible Study, Galatians (in person or via teams)

Thursday, April 29:

- 6:30 pm: Men's Bible Study on Matthew (Mission Viejo) Led by elder, Brad Hustad

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3:

- 9:30 am: Pastor Espinosa – Divine Service
- 11:00 am: Bible Study
- 2 pm: Pastor Espinosa – Divine Service

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude

Greeting

P The Lord is my shepherd;

C I shall not want.

- Psalm 23:1

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn:

711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

(all stanzas)

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 2:42–47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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



C 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 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 10:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day:

709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

(all stanzas)

Children's Message

Sermon

Rev. Miller

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For steadfast faith to hear the voice of our great Shepherd, that passing through the valley of the shadow of death we may receive our portion in His abundant life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all pastors, that God would bestow Christ's wisdom and tenderness upon those called to shepherd the souls of His people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all believers, that they would receive their pastors as gifts from the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all Christian homes, that by good deeds the ignorance of foolish people may be put to silence before God's divine institution; for all married couples, [*especially* _____], that God would preserve them in love and faithfulness; for all parents, that God would strengthen them as teachers of the faith; and for the unmarried, that God would uphold them honorable and unashamed in their station, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who would govern the people of the Church, that they would be held accountable and honor the purpose of the Good Shepherd as they protect His people and serve the cause of justice and liberty, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For _____, that God would work by His mercy for their good now and eternally; for readiness to intercede for one another since we have been gathered together in the fellowship of Christ and His apostolic Word; and for the proclamation of the Gospel, that God would be pleased to add to our number those who are being saved, until He brings us all rest eternally in His safekeeping, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who eat of Christ's body and blood this day, given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins, that even amid sin, death and the devil, the Lord's goodness and mercy would follow us all the days of our lives and we would dwell in His house forever, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Holy Spirit in rich measure, that hearing and following Christ, our Shepherd, we would pass through every tribulation to our eternal heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

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

+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

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

The Words of Our Lord

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

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you

for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

735 Have No Fear, Little Flock

(all stanzas)

770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

(all stanzas)

666 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe

(all stanzas)

684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary

(all stanzas)

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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.

G Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C Amen.**

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Special Announcement

Pastoral Care Notice

Pastor Espinosa will be on vacation beginning the evening of **Saturday, April 18**, and will return on **Tuesday, April 28**.

During this time, for any pastoral emergencies, please contact **Vicar Johnson** at **913-401-9223**. He will assist you and coordinate care with local pastors as needed.

Thank you for your understanding, and please keep Pastor & Traci Espinosa in your prayers during his time away.

General Announcements

Adult Bible Study This Sunday

Join us this Sunday for Adult Bible Study led by Vicar Johnson. He will be sharing details about our mission efforts to reach the Mandarin-speaking community in Irvine. This is a great opportunity to learn more about this important outreach and how you can support and be involved. All are welcome!

Summer Schedule Update

Wednesday and Thursday programming will be on hiatus for the summer, including Wednesday services and Bible studies.

VBS will still take place, and plans are underway for men's and women's retreats this fall. More details to come—this is simply to keep everyone informed.

Save the Date – Saint Paul’s VBS is Back!

Saint Paul’s Vacation Bible School (VBS) is returning this summer! Mark your calendars for **June 29 – July 3** at **Irvine Regional Park**, just as we’ve joyfully done in past years.

VBS is a fun, Christ-centered week designed for children to grow in faith through songs, lessons, crafts, games, and fellowship. We’re excited to bring this ministry back—and to begin forming our **VBS Leadership Team**.

As we begin planning in the coming months, **we need volunteers!** If you feel called to share your time and talents, please reach out to our Head Elder, **Mike Padilla** head.elder@saintpaulsirvine.com, who will be helping coordinate the effort. Thank you for considering how you might support this wonderful ministry!

Volunteer Opportunities at Saint Paul’s

Saint Paul’s has several meaningful opportunities for members to serve and get involved. If you’ve been looking for a way to use your gifts, **now is the perfect time!**

We currently have openings for:

- **Evangelism Director**

This role focuses on organization and communication—no direct evangelism required. The goal is simply to help coordinate our “Circle of Friends” outreach and keep records for follow-up.

- **Youth Director**

- **Altar Guild Members** (see below announcement)

- **Vacation Bible School Volunteers** (see above)

If you are interested in finding your place to serve at Saint Paul’s, please contact: **Jackie Johnson**

(Admin): office@saintpaulsirvine.com or **Mike Padilla (Presiding Elder):** head.elder@saintpaulsirvine.com

We would love to help you connect with a role where your gifts can bless our community!

Please consider prayerfully volunteering for Altar Guild.

This ministry lovingly cares for the sanctuary and prepares all elements for worship, especially Holy Communion. Volunteers set the altar, prepare the bread and wine, tend to vessels and linens, and help create a welcoming, reverent space for worship.

The commitment is typically once per month to prepare before Sunday service and clean up afterward, with occasional biannual meetings for planning.

If you feel called to serve, please contact an Altar Guild member or Mike Padilla. Training is provided—we would be grateful to have you join us.

SERVICE TEAM SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Team</u>	<u>Ushers/ Greeter</u>	<u>Elders on Duty</u>	<u>Welcome Table</u>	<u>Live- stream</u>
<i>Service Team Chairs</i>	<i>Shared Role</i>	<i>Mike Padilla</i>	<i>Mike Padilla</i>	<i>Kiu Geisler</i>	<i>Jon Steele</i>
4th 4/26/2026	Jeanette Dahlin	Paul & Samuel Hines	John Church	Luke Pierik	Jon Steele
1st 5/3/2026	Anne Wright	Al Ibrahim, Barney Wright	Bruce Dannemeyer	Anne Wright	Jim J.
2nd 5/10/2026	Elizabeth Brothwell	Don & Elizabeth Brothwell	Mike Padilla	Cindy Kilduff	Jim J.
3rd 5/17/2026	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank, Ed Miller	Bryan Kilduff	Kiu Geisler	Jon Steele

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

4 th – 4/26/2026	Daisy Minter, Anne Marie Hines
1 st - 5/3/2026	Liana Padilla, Nancy Howard
2 nd – 5/10/2026	Renee Mott, Ann Ashmon
3 rd – 5/17/2026	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer