

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!
St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)
Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17, 2025 – 7:00 pm

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

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

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Concordia University Irvine – Spectrum Campus

16355 Laguna Canyon Rd

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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

- Sunday Divine Service 9:30 am
 - Fellowship in Café 10:30 am. Adult Bible Study 11:00 am
- Good Friday at 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday Divine Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am
 - Easter Fellowship Breakfast at 9:30 am
 - Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 am

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 St. 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

O Mankind, Bemoan Your Grievous Sins -- J.S. 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.

G 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.

G Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G 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.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 12:1–14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²"This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.

³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷"Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the

houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 11:23–32

I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³²But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 13:1–17, 31b–35

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand."

⁸Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. . . .

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³²If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon Hymn:

LSB 446 Jesus, Greatest at the Table

Sermon:

Jesus Cares

(John 13:1–17)

Pastor Mueller

Stand

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.

Blessed Lord, You have opened a new and living way to Yourself through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that we, who have been washed in His font and cleansed by His blood, would confidently enter His sanctuary and at last enter His heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Blessed Lord, give us a heart of mercy to love all people and serve them as Christ has loved and served us. Bless Your Church and provide for her faithful pastors and church workers, that we may keep the faith and not be led astray by every wind of change. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, give our leaders wisdom and courage, that they may serve Your Word in the punishment of wrong, the promotion of good and the protection of the weak. Bless mothers with child and the children in their wombs. Lead us to care for them, that we would not dishonor Your sacred gift of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, give healing to the sick according to Your will. Grant relief to the suffering by Your grace. Give comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying. Bring all things to their perfect healing and fulfillment in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, You have given us a good confession of the hope we have in Jesus. Sustain us by His own flesh and blood, and give us cleansed hearts to love one another as He has loved us. Gather us together with Your whole Church on earth and in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together 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, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ 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

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

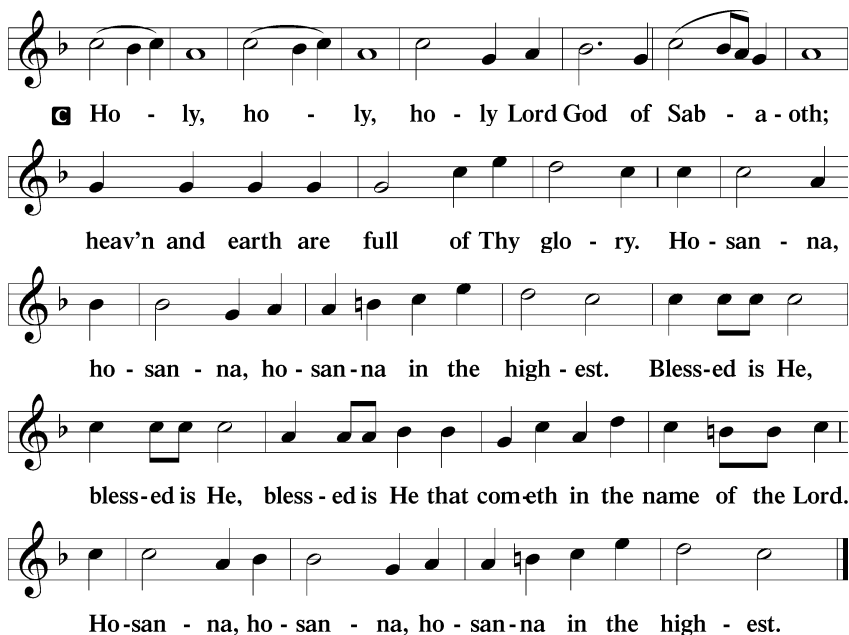
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

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



C 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

Distribution Hymns:

617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

(all stanzas)

445 When You Woke That Thursday Morning

(all stanzas)

630 Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

(all stanzas)

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



(congregation chants in unison)

G ¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken 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.
¹¹Be 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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This week:

Holy Week Service Offerings

- Good Friday (4/18) 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday Divine Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am
 - Easter Fellowship Breakfast at 9:30am
 - Egg Hunt at 10:00 am

Easter Fellowship Breakfast- Help wanted!!

Easter Sunday is just around the corner, and we are excited to celebrate together with a special **Easter Breakfast Potluck** on **Sunday, April 20, 2025, in between services around 9:30 am.**

We invite you to bring a dish to share—whether it's a casserole, fresh fruit, pastries, or a special family recipe. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy fellowship and a delicious meal before our Easter service. To help us plan, please sign up to bring a dish using the sign-up sheet during fellowship on Sunday or this google sheet online [here](#).

Thank you for being part of this special time of community and celebration. We look forward to rejoicing with you on Easter morning!

If you have any questions, please contact **Renee Mott at 650-438-4791.**