

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

Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 19, 2026

Divine 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:

Third Sunday of Easter, April 19:

- 9:30 am: Divine Service- Pastor Mueller
- 11:00 am: Bible Study Vicar Miles Johnson Missions (Part 1)
- 2 pm: Matins- Sermon by CFW Walter (Led by Vicar Johnson) *"The Second Sunday of Easter"*

Tuesday, April 21:

- 7:30 am: Patron's Men's Bible Study, Matthew Chapter 2 (Corona del Mar)

Wednesday, April 22:

- 9:00 am: Matins- Continuation on Article III of the Solid Declaration of the Book of Concord
- 10:00 am: Bible Study, Galatians (in person or via teams)

Thursday, April 23:

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 26:

- 9:30 am: Rev. Tom Miller Preaching – Divine Service
- 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"*

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude

Concordia Handbells.....

Fantasia on "All Creatures of our God and King"

Greeting

☞ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

☩ our God is merciful.

- *Psalm 116:5*

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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 Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

Service of the Word

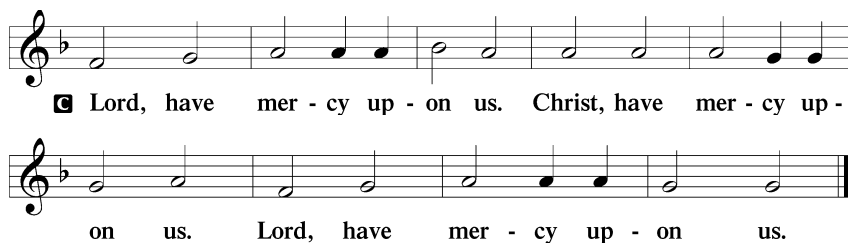
Entrance Hymn:

603 We Know That Christ Is Raised

(all stanzas)

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

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 1:17–25

¹⁷If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

"All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever."

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

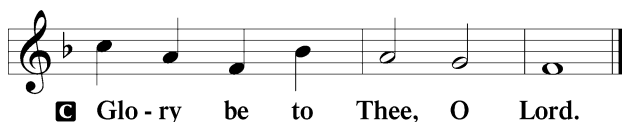
LSB 190



Holy Gospel

Luke 24:13–35

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



¹³That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" ¹⁹And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him

they did not see.” ²⁵And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. ²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” ³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: **476 Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow**
(w/ Concordia Handbells)

Sermon

"It was Necessary"
(Luke 24:13-35)
Pastor Mueller

[P] The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your
hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

[C] **Amen.**

Offering

Concordia Handbells.....
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

~ *Blessing of the 2026 Graduates* ~

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the God of all compassion, whose Spirit opens the Holy Scriptures, would enlighten us with the resurrection light that never fades, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faithful pastors, that they would proclaim repentance and forgiveness through Word and Sacrament to those near and those far off — everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all Christian homes, that they may be grounded in God's Word; and that husbands, wives and children may be united and nurtured in this Word, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our nation and the world, that the powers of darkness would be stifled and the reign of war, violence and terror come to an end; for our leaders, that they would work for the common good and pursue righteousness; for _____, our president; the Congress of the United States; _____, our governor; all state and local officials; all medical and emergency workers; and all members of the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick, the suffering and the dying, [*especially* _____], that the Lord would deliver and comfort them, guard them against despair, and grant them patience in days of trouble as we await His perfect healing, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we would know Christ and His compassion through the breaking of the bread; and that our hearts and mouths would be opened to receive forgiveness through the body and blood of Christ who suffered for us and has entered His glory, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who mourn, that Christ — who has delivered our souls from death; our eyes from tears; and our feet from stumbling by His life, death and resurrection — would comfort them by that truth, so that they would not grieve as others do who have no such hope, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P These things and whatever else You know that we need, kind Father, grant us for the sake of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the 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

LSB 194



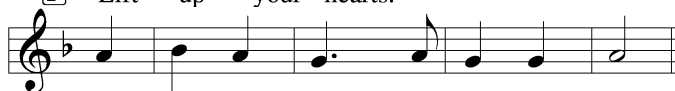
P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



G We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



G It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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

LSB 197

- 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

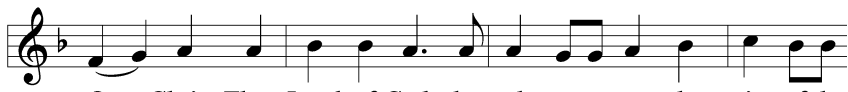
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LSB 197



C A - men.

LSB 198



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

483 With High Delight Let Us Unite

(w/ Concordia Handbells)

633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

(all stanzas)

680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

(w/ Concordia Handbells)

Stand

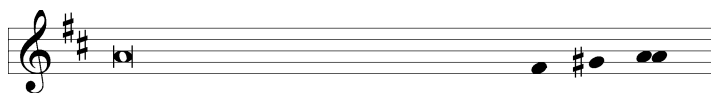
Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

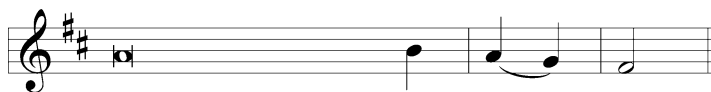
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



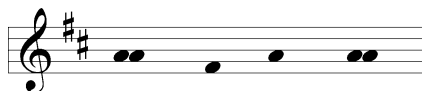
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



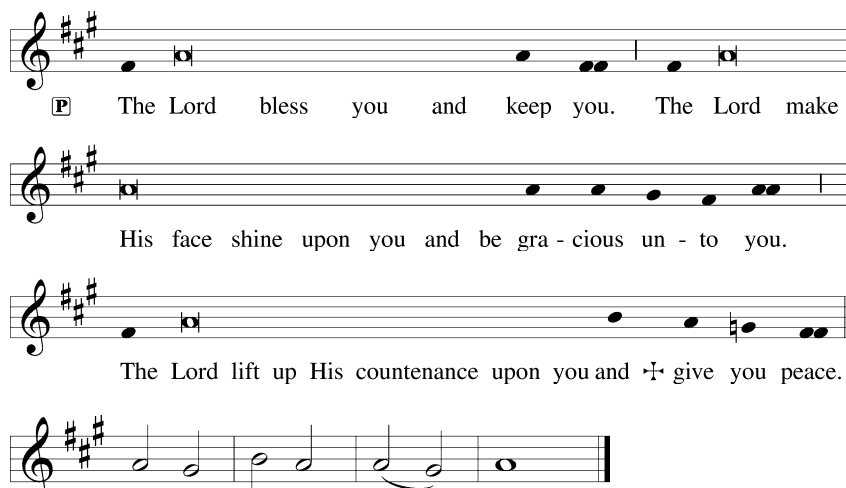
A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make
His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Postlude

Grand Choeur -- Th Dubois

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three 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

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 above earlier 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>
Service Team Chairs	Shared Role	Mike Padilla	Mike Padilla	Kiu Geisler	Jon Steele
3rd 4/19/2026	Ali Frank, Laura Miller	Bill Frank, Ed Miller	John Church	Kiu Geisler	Jon Steele
4th 4/26/2026	Help Needed	Paul & Samuel Hines	John Church	Luke Pierik	Jon Steele
1st 5/3/2026	Jeanette Dahlin	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.

FELLOWSHIP ROTATION

3 rd – 4/19/2026	Jeanette Dahlin, Mary Seltzer
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