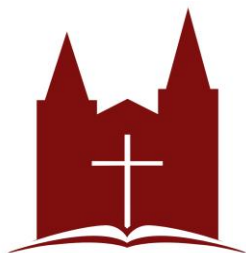


Sunday & Monday April 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026



**HE LIVES TO RESTORE  
MY HOPE**



**St. Paul**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH



# St. Paul

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## LUTHERAN CHURCH

*As Christians united in common faith, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to nurture believers and bring the lost to faith in Jesus through God's Holy Word and Sacraments.*

### **Welcome!**

- Restrooms are in the church basement located just at the bottom of the front stairs. Changing tables are available to parents.
  - An elevator is available on the north side of the church entrance.
  - The basement is available to parents needing to quiet small children. The area is equipped with closed circuit TV.
  - Out of respect for all who worship today, please silence all electronic devices.
  - Children's Activity Bags are available in the narthex. Please return them to the 'used' bin after service.
- 

### **Note to our Guests about the Lord's Supper:**

We are glad you have come to hear God's Word today with us. Through his Word, the Lord speaks of Jesus' forgiveness to us and his peace fills our hearts.

Today we also celebrate the Lord's Supper, which God describes as a unified joint confession of faith in Jesus. Therefore, we ask that only those who have confessed a unified faith with us through membership in a WELS or ELS congregation come up to receive the Lord's Supper. Thank you for respecting our beliefs based on God's Word.

If you would like to receive the Lord's Supper with us in the future, please speak with one of our pastors.

## HE LIVES TO RESTORE MY HOPE

*Without the resurrection of Jesus, I would have little hope for the future. That's how the disciples felt after this death. "We hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel" (Luke 24:19). Their hope for a better life had died along with Jesus.*

*But he lives, and it makes a difference. My hope for the future is restored. I have victory over the feeling of hopelessness, because the one who heals me and gives me a better life is himself alive. He lives to restore my hope.*

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Service Setting 3, CW p. 188

### Hymn

### Alleluia! Jesus Lives

CW 455

Stand

### Easter Greeting

Christ is risen!

**He is risen, indeed!**

### Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

## This Is the Feast

CW 938 sts. 1, 2, 5

*Refrain*



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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Verses*

1 † Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 blood set us free — to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, — bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*

5 For the Lamb who was slain  
 has begun his reign. Alleluia! (Final Refrain)

### Final Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Acts 2:14a,32-41

*The message of Christ crucified and risen gives the certain hope of forgiveness to sinners.*

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

<sup>32</sup>God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.

<sup>33</sup>Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

<sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“The Lord said to my Lord:  
 “Sit at my right hand  
<sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies  
 a footstool for your feet.” ’

<sup>36</sup>“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

<sup>37</sup>When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

<sup>38</sup>Peter replied, “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. <sup>39</sup>The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

<sup>40</sup>With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup>Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 116B I Will Walk in the Presence of the Lord

Psalm 116B

*Refrain*

I will walk in the pres - ence of the LORD,  
 in the land of the liv - ing.

*Tone*

I love the LORD, for he / heard my voice;  
 he heard my cry for / mercy.  
 Because he turned his / ear to me,  
 I will call on him as long / as I live.

The LORD is gracious and / righteous;  
when I was brought low, he / saved me. *Refrain*

What shall I return / to the LORD  
for all his good- / ness to me?  
I will lift up the cup of sal- / vation  
and call on the name / of the LORD.

Precious in the sight / of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful / servants.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Richard T. Proulx

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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## Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17–21

*Our hope and expectation is joining our Savior in the glory of heaven. Until that day, we live as pilgrims heading toward home.*

<sup>17</sup>Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. <sup>18</sup>For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup>He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

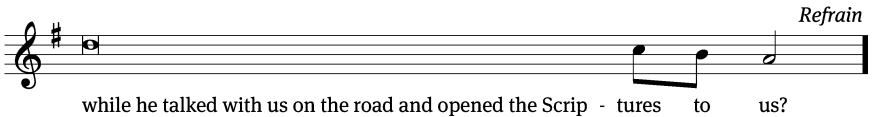
# Gospel Acclamation

Luke 24:32

## Refrain



## Tone



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# Gospel & Sermon Text

Luke 24:13-35

*Jesus restored the hope of two disciples as he explained the Scriptures.*

<sup>13</sup>Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup>As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup>but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup>He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup>One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?”

<sup>19</sup>“What things?” he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup>The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup>but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup>In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup>but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive.

<sup>24</sup>Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

<sup>25</sup>He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” <sup>27</sup>And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup>As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. <sup>29</sup>But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

<sup>30</sup>When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup>Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup>They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

<sup>33</sup>They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup>and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” <sup>35</sup>Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

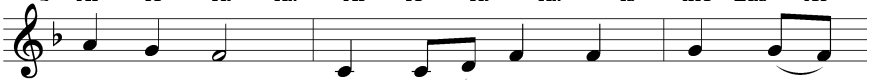
## Hymn of the Day

## Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow

CW 980



1 Who are you who walk in sor - row down Em - ma - us'  
2 Who is this who joins our jour - ney, walk - ing with us  
3 Who are you? Our hearts are o - pened in the break - ing  
4 Who are we who trav - el with you on our way through  
5 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" is the Eas - ter



bar - ren road, hearts dis - traught and hope de -  
stride by stride? Un - known stran - ger, can you  
of the bread— Christ the vic - tim, now the  
life to death? Wo - men, men, the young, the  
hymn we sing! Take our life, our joy, our



feat - ed, bent be - neath grief's crush - ing load?  
 fath - om depths of grief for one who died?  
 vic - tor liv - ing, ris - en from the dead!  
 ag - ing, wak - ened by the Spir - it's breath!  
 wor - ship as the gift of love we bring.



Name - less mourn - ers, we will join you, we who al - so  
 Then the won - der! When we told you how our dreams to  
 Great com - pan - ion on our jour - ney, still sur - prise us  
 At the font you claim and name us, born of wa - ter  
 You have formed us all one peo - ple called from ev - 'ry



mourn our dead; we have stood by graves un -  
 dust have turned, then you o - pened wide the  
 with your grace! Make each day a new Em -  
 and the Word; at the ta - ble still you  
 land and race. Make the Church your ser - vant



yield - ing, eat - en death's bare, bit - ter bread.  
 Scrip - tures till our hearts with - in us burned.  
 ma - us; on our hearts your im - age trace!  
 feed us, host us as our ris - en Lord!  
 bod - y, sent to share your heal - ing grace!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1825, ed. William Moore

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Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

Pastor Matt Holtz

Stand

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Offering**

### **The Sacrament**

*Stand*

### **Preface**

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

CW 199

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,  
 heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

# Lamb of God

CW 202



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us, grant us peace.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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*Be seated*

## Distribution

**Hymn** *(Sunday)*

**Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands**

CW 440

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn**

## **Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds**

*CW 471 sts. 1, 3*

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### **Acknowledgments**

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

Preacher: Matt Holtz

Presiding Minister: Justin Shrum

Accompanist: Dan Vogel / Stacey Kraus

### **Service Teams:**

8:00 a.m. Team Abitz; AV: tbd

10:30 a.m. Team Blob; AV: tbd

6:00 p.m. Team Woehler

# Welcome

**In an age of anxiety** we still believe that peace comes from Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

**In an age of confusion** we still believe that the Bible is the word of God, inerrant and infallible.

**In an age of doubt** we still believe that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.

**In an age of guilt** we still believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay for the sins of the world, bringing complete pardon and joy to all believers.

**In an age of reason** we still believe that God is at work in the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

**In an age of change** we still believe in one unchanging God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Whether you are a first time visitor or returning guest, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

Scan the QR code below for access to the Church Center App.



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