

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD



May 12, 2024

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:10am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave
9:00am | Choir Practice
9:30am | Education Hour with Sunday School,
Confirmation and Adult Forum
10:30am | Service with Holy Communion in Nave
and Online
11:30am | Coffee Hour

LIVESTREAMING

Worship is streamed on the St. Paul Lutheran Arlington Facebook page. A Facebook account is not necessary to stream, however, without a Facebook account the stream works on a computer browser only and not on a phone.

WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Sign up for Weekly Update newsletter by going to our website at www.stpaularlington.org and clicking on SUBSCRIBE.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE FOR MAY AND JUNE

This Sunday, we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord and the rite of confirmation for four of our beloved youth on May 12. May 19 is the celebration of the Day of Pentecost and Recognition Sunday during which we give thanks for all those in the congregation who serve on Sundays to make our life together good: teachers, lectors, altar guild, acolytes, ushers, choir and coffee hour hospitality specialists. **Take note that on May 26 we begin our summer schedule with one service at 9:30.** On June 2 we look forward to recognizing all the new people who have joined us since the fall. There is much to celebrate in the weeks ahead.

CYF (CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES) REQUEST

Also: June 16th we are going to be celebrating our Graduates! We are excited to celebrate your accomplishments, and don't want to leave anyone out. Please share with us the name, where they are graduating from, and plans for the future to stpaularlingtonfamily@gmail.com.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY TODAY ARE:

Marie Breitenbach and Julia Pearson, *Altar Guild*
Luther Oliver and Gus Airasian, *Acolytes*
Marie Breitenbach, *Cantor*
Marie Breitenbach, *Lector*
Elizabeth Heichler, *Deacon*
Dan Ries, *Usher*
Hollie Schmidt, *Livestream Broadcast*
Peter and Hollie Schmidt, *Coffee Guild*



Today's altar flowers are given by the Bakule family in honor of all of the mothers in our lives and in celebration of Confirmation Day.

When the instruction for standing * appears, please stand as you are able and as seems comfortable.

At the ✝, you may make the sign of the cross, which reminds us of our baptism.

The congregational responses are printed in **bold**.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude in G minor, BWV 861 (8:30 am)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Chorus from Judas Maccabaeus (10:30 am)

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Felix Denecke-Spakovszky, violin

Wiebke Denecke, violin

WELCOME

* GATHERING HYMN

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

ELW 445



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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*GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



G Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



G Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



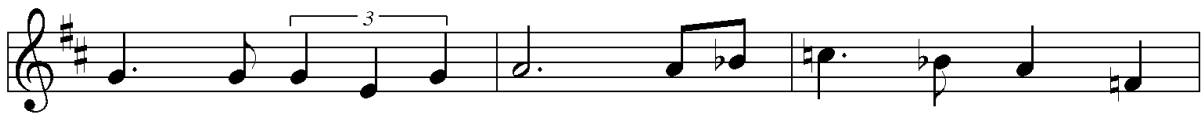
glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



III Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



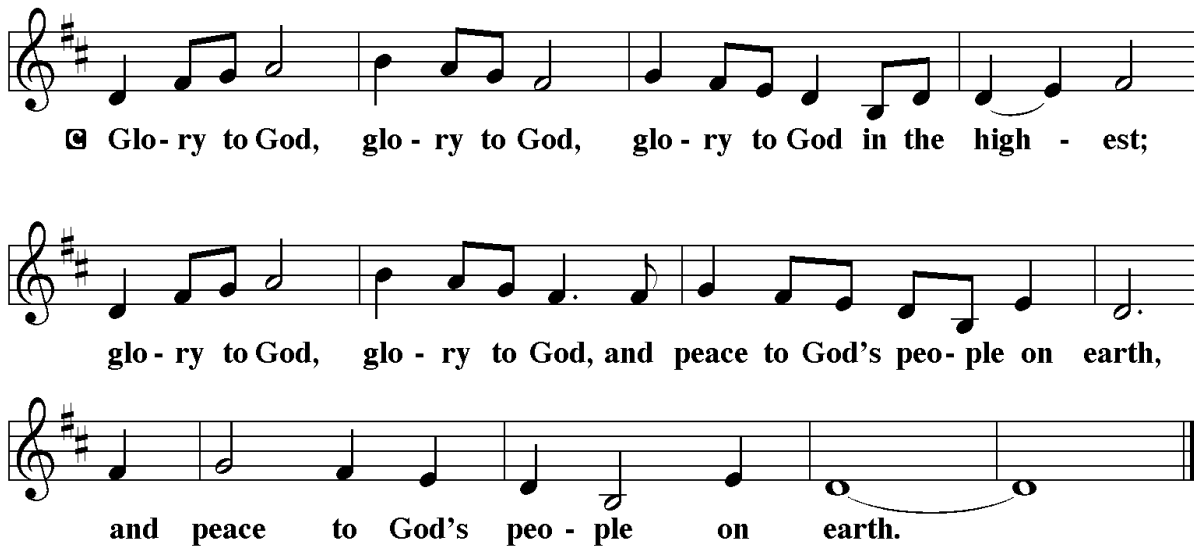
I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☩ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 1:1-11

Before he is lifted into heaven, Jesus promises that the missionary work of the disciples will spread out from Jerusalem to all the world, and that the disciples will be accompanied and empowered by the Holy Spirit. His words provide an outline of the book of Acts.

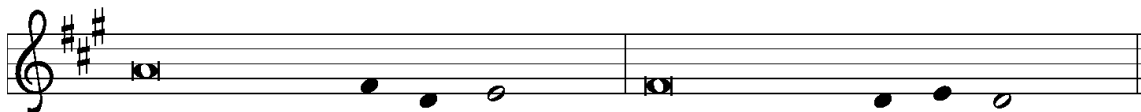
Luke writes: In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were

gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 47



Clap your hands, | all you peoples;
shout to God with a | joyful sound.

For the Lord Most High is | to be feared:

a great king over | all the earth,
who subdues the | peoples under us,
and the nations un- | der our feet;
who chooses our inheri- | tance for us,
the pride of Jacob, | whom God loves.

God has gone up | with a shout,
the Lord with the sound | of the ram's horn.

Sing praises to | God, sing praises;
sing praises to our | king, sing praises.

For God is king of | all the earth;
sing praises | with a song.

God reigns o- | ver the nations;
God is en- | throned on high.

The nobles of the peoples have gathered as the people of the | God of Abraham.
The rulers of the earth belong to God, who is high- | ly exalted.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15–23

The risen and exalted Christ reigns over the entire universe. The author of Ephesians prays that we are given the wisdom to know the power of the risen Christ and the empowering hope that the knowledge of this inheritance provides.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable

greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

* GOSPEL

Luke 24:44-53

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the eleven and those with them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Borning Cry"

ELW 732



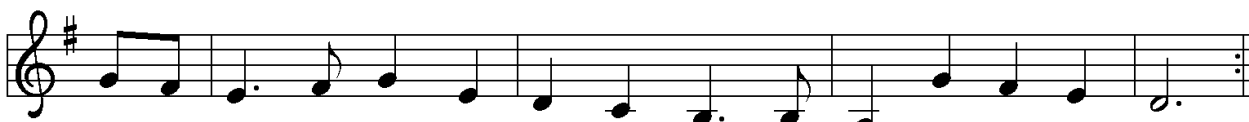
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Affirmation of Baptism

May 12, 2024

ST. PAUL CELEBRATES THE AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM OF

Grace Bakule

Child of Joanna and Justin Bakule

Isak Moore Christianson

Child of Kristy Moore and John Christianson

Madison Curlin

Child of Julie and Bill Curlin

Eli Hulse

Child of Katie and David Hulse

PRESENTATION

As you are named, I invite you to stand and gather around the font with your parents and sponsors.

Grace Bakule

Isak Moore Christianson

Madison Curlin

Eli Hulse

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for Grace, Isak, Madison and Eli, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Grace, Isak, Madison and Eli, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

People of God, with these confirmands, I ask you to confess the faith of the church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

AFFIRMATION IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ASSEMBLY

Grace, Isak, Madson and Eli, you have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Each person responds:

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these confirmands and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

The parents and sponsors each place their right hand on the shoulder of each person, and the pastors lay hands on the head of each person and say:

Stir up in Grace, Isak, Madison and Eli, the gift of your Holy Spirit:

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever.

Amen.

The confirmands turn and face the assembly.

Please stand as able.

Let us rejoice with these confirmands. We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

Amen.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The leader will read the first and last prayer, those in the congregation are invited to read aloud the other prayers as they feel called.

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church and all ministers of the gospel, that the Spirit will empower them to be your witnesses throughout the earth. Keep all teachers and missionaries under your care and guide them as they proclaim your word to the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of creation and for all your creatures: for zoos, nature preserves, and conservation organizations, for endangered species, and for those who work to protect all that you have made. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations and those who govern: for all countries, regions, and people in crisis or at war, for Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, and Haiti. We also pray for compassion, safety, and productive discourse amidst campus protests across the country. Bring your peace on earth, in our homes, and in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children need your loving care. Protect them from all harm. Comfort those in any affliction especially Dan, Jeffrey, Lynn, Meredith, Owen, and Susan. Support those who grieve and bring solace to those near death. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit lives within us here. Inspire the work of this congregation and unite us as one. Accompany our youth who have affirmed their Baptisms through the rite of Confirmation today. Bless all the mothers in our midst, console those for whom this day is difficult, and gather us all under the care of your loving wings. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for all the faithful departed who now rest in you. Following the example of Matthias the Apostle, and Erik, King of Sweden and all those who have died in the faith, strengthen us to share your good news in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

* PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

ANTHEM

“O Love”

Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)

O love, O love, O love that will not let me go;
O love, I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O joy that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain... that morn shall tearless be.
That morn shall tearless be.

O love, O love, O love that will not let me go;
O love, I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give Thee back the life I owe;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
And in Thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be.
That morn shall tearless be.

O love, O love, O love that will not let me go;
O love that will not let me go.

OFFERING

You may give an offering through the Givelify app by scanning this QR code:



* OFFERTORY (10:30 only)



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were

sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we

of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,

Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
 you call us to believe and bear fruit.
 May the gifts that we offer here
 be signs of your abiding love.
 Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
 through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.

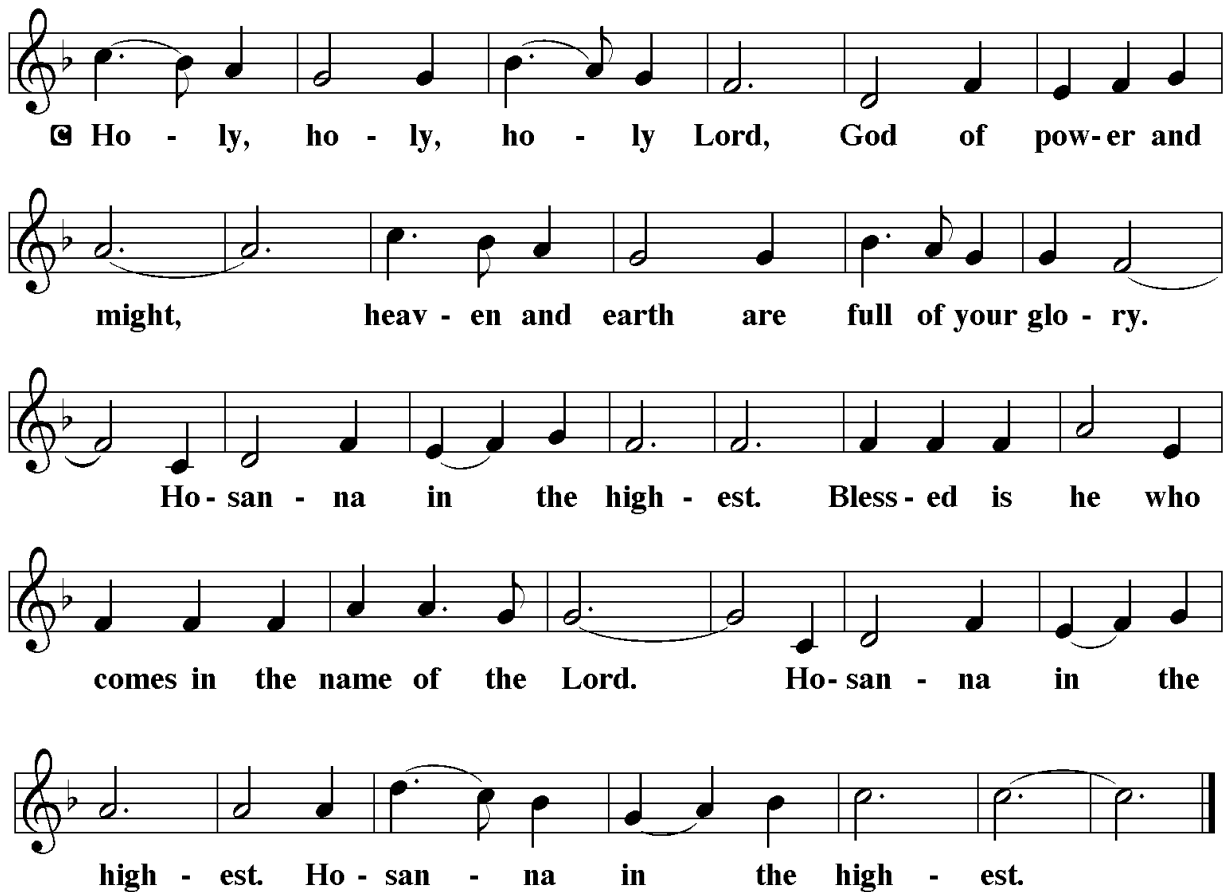
* GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

* LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

☩ 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 peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN (10:30 only)

“Baptized in Water”

ELW 456

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

* POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (10:30 only)

☩ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the
 Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
 Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
 lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

* TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✠ bless you now and always.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* SENDING HYMN

“Remember and Rejoice”

ELW 454

1 Re - mem - ber and re - joi - ce, re - newed by floods of grace.
2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most ho - ly name,
3 We pledge our - selves a - new to flee the lures of hell,
4 God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.
5 Re - mem - ber and re - joi - ce, re - newed by floods of grace.

We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - raise.
 for - ev - er traced by wa - ter sign, and sealed by Spir - it flame.
 to cling to Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, in jus - tice, peace to dwell.
 Re - new - ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.
 We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - raise.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: ST. THOMAS, Aaron Williams, 1731-1776

*** DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G minor, BWV 861 (8:30 am)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Concerto for Two Violins in D minor,
 BWV 1043, 1st Mvt (10:30 am)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Felix Denecke-Spakovszky, violin
Wiebke Denecke, violin

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING HAPPENINGS
at SAINT PAUL



CYF (CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES) UPDATE

St. Paul Annual Weekend Retreat will be the weekend of August 23-25. This is an annual tradition to relax, reflect, and reconnect with each other in the beautiful environment of Camp Calumet on Lake Ossipee in New Hampshire. All are welcome to join us for this weekend! Camp Calumet Summer Camp now enrolling for their summer camp. Many of the youth in our congregation attend and work there. It is a great community that offers a fun, accepting environment for youth of all ages. Visit their website at www.calumet.org.

UPCOMING ADULT FORUM TOPICS | Sundays in Easter

May 19 – last Bible study of the year



SAINT PAUL
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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Staff

The Reverend Ross Goodman, *Pastor*
The Reverend Liz Senft, *Pastoral Associate*
Katie Linthicum, *Vicar*
Ana Zecic Jeffers, *Director of Music*
Paul Ricci, *Business Administrator*
Sarah Carter, *Children, Youth and
Families Director*
Jennifer White, *Parish Administrator*
Dennis O'Brien, *Church Property Manager*

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Elizabeth Heichler, *President*
Monique Airasian, *Vice-President*
Eric Haugen, *Treasurer*
Kerri Frick, *Secretary*
Norma Ofsthun, *Financial Secretary*
Mark Olson, *Financial Secretary*
Kristen Anderson
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Kevin Kreutter
Bob Sniffen
Sandy Walker
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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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