



Welcome to

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

***Fifth Sunday of Easter
Confirmation***

Sunday, April 28, 2024

"In Nomine Iesu"

915 - 27th Street, Marion, Iowa 52302
e-mail: office@stpaulsmaionowa.org
www.mystpauls.org
Phone: (319)377-4687

We extend a warm **WELCOME** to all who are worshiping with us today. May you find great joy in God's grace as we have come to know it in Jesus Christ. In a world of earning one's way and striving for achievement, we are here because we have been graced, loved, died for and blessed. It has been a gift from the heart of God. We have much for which to be grateful. Let us worship the Lord in spirit and truth.

Everyone, both guests and members, **are** asked to fill out the attendance card found in the pew rack and place it in the basket on the table or hand it to an usher as you leave the service.

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. Since this is also a sign of our common confession of faith, we welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are presently confirmed members of congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you wish to commune for the first time at St. Paul's, please speak to a Pastor before the service.

Prelude "*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*" Franklin D. Ashdown
Welcome and Announcements
Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells

The Order of Worship
Lutheran Service Book –
Divine Service Four with Communion

Entrance Hymn "*Lift High the Cross*"

LSB #837

Invocation *(please stand)*

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

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

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

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

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

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you
and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and
ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore
forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
(+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 145:1-2, 8, 10, 21; antiphon: John 16:16

P A little while, and you will see me no longer;

C **and again a little while, and you will see me.**

P I will extol you, my God and King,

C **and bless your name forever and ever.**

P Every day I will bless you
C **and praise your name forever and ever.**

P The LORD is gracious and merciful,
C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
C **and all your saints shall bless you!**

P My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
C **and let all flesh bless his holy name
forever and ever.**

All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be
forever. Amen.**

P A little while, and you will see me no longer;
C **and again a little while, and you will see me.**

Kyrie



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

Gloria in Excelsis



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



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



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



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

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

(be seated)

Choir Anthem

"This I Pray"

Words and Music by Jay Althouse

*" Lord, be with me each new day,
Yet, as I walk every pathway
In my time of need I will follow
Where You lead
Be my shepherd, this I pray."*

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading

Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.³² Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴ And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.³⁶ And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?"³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.³⁹ And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 John 4:1-11

¹ Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse (*please stand*)

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

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

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

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

The image shows a musical score for a four-part setting of the Alleluia and Verse. It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The first staff is the Alleluia, the second is the Verse, the third is the Alleluia, and the fourth is the Verse. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Holy Gospel

John 15:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 15th chapter.

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

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever

Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P Lord, in your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, our risen Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (*please stand*)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

Sanctus



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

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

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

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

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.**

Lord's Prayer

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

All **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

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

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

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

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

Distribution (be seated)

(All members of our St. Paul’s family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.)

The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain

red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)

Distribution Hymns

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB #637

“Thine Forever, God of Love”

LSB #687

Nunc Dimittis (please stand)

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

Post-Communion Collect (please stand)

P 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 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.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and (+) give you peace.

C Amen.

(be seated)

Closing Hymn *“Let Me Be Thine Forever”* LSB #689

Silent Prayer

Postlude *“Christ Be My Leader”* Joan Devere Dixon

“Soli Deo Gloria”

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Streaming license through CCLI, Stream License number: 20193242 Copyright License number: 1259603