

April 27, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
Walk With Us As Disciples of Christ!
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School
LCMC
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Website: www.stpaultaylor.com



Online Giving Portal:



Follow us at [Facebook.com/stpaultaylor](https://www.facebook.com/stpaultaylor)
SUNDAY RADIO BROADCAST
KRXT 98.5 FM at 12:00pm
St. Paul Church does take pictures and videos which will be posted on their
Social Media and Web Page.
TWCWiFi - no password needed

St. Paul Lutheran Church

WALK WITH US AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST!

Welcome!!

We welcome all who worship this Lord's Day! We are glad you are worshiping with us today. As we can be helpful to you, we look forward to doing so. If you would like the pastor to contact you, please mark that on the Record of Fellowship or call the church office.

We ask that the Record of Fellowship be filled out (members and visitors) so that we will have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

We Remember in Prayer

(Please call the church office to remove anyone from the prayer lists.)

Please remember the Vorwerk family in your prayers with the passing of Jane Vorwerk.

Our Members:

Kent Safarik.

Our Shut Ins:

Inez Sladek, Terri Abert, Grace Bulgerin, Mary Miller, Lorene Prinz, Geraldine Steger, Lomis Weber, Carol Lantzsch, Lisa Cox, Geraldine Cox, Carolyn Jacobson.

Our family, friends, and loved ones:

Randel Duelm, Fred Bittner, Wayne Schroeder, Rachel Elson, Richard Jansky, Jackie Matthys Thomas, Felicia Garcia, Penny Dittman, Alan Debus, Robert Harty, Mackenzie Brewer, Loretta Simank, Authur Moreno, Jack Dismukes, Calvin and Rosalie Jechow, Edward Morgan, Sandra Milner, Dora Brittian, Ryan Richey, Alma Russell, Tori Harris and baby, Mary Perez, Iris Rangel and family, Melissa Balderas, Kelly Clines Thompson, Rob Randig, Gayla Lantzsch, Tommy Harrison, Walter Moldenhauer.

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WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of + the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,
and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love
and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;
waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright "

P 384

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



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



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



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

Glory to God



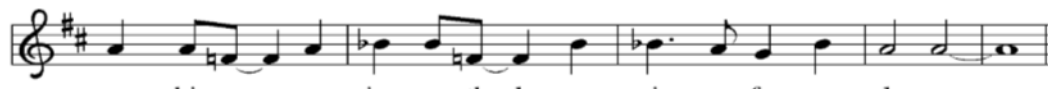
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



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



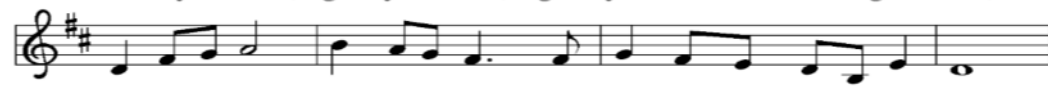
1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



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



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.

2 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.

Refrain

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.

3 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.

Final refrain

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

Let us pray

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29

You are my God, and I will exalt you. (Ps. 118:28)

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

**¹⁵Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

**¹⁷I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

**¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

**²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**²³By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! O LORD, save us!**

We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷**The LORD is God and has given us light.**

Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy endures forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation

Children's message

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!"

P. 380

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

CREED

Apostles' Creed

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

**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 to the dead.*
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.**

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way, and we remember our friends and family members before you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Transform our fear into curiosity and love, especially across differences in race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, and economic situation. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination, and destroy oppressive systems that marginalize vulnerable communities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries: for Cheryl Kruckemeyer our missionary in Tanzania, for William and Margaret in Kenya serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation Faith Lutheran Church in Regent, North Dakota. God of all wisdom, you hold the whole world in your hands. Protect and nurture your creation and help your church to steward well all that you entrust to our care. By the power of your Holy Spirit, guide the District Council of LCMC Texas and give them wisdom as they steward your call for us to multiply disciples and churches. Today we also give you thanks for St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jourdan, Texas and their pastor, John Gooch. Bless their work for your Kingdom's sake. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We remember the faithful departed from all times and places. Confident that you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

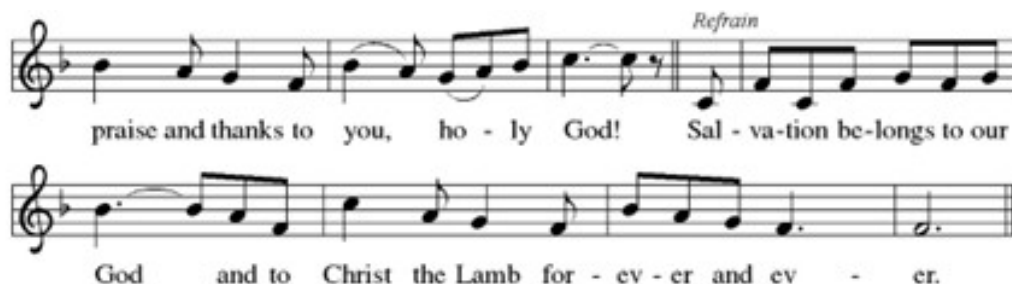
And also with you. Amen

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Refrain



Sal - va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -
ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O
God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O
Rul - er of all the na-tions. Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and
Refrain
sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va-tion be-longs to our
God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.
2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and
bless-ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All



THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love,
 we give thanks to you
 that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.
 Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,
 and at the end bring all the world to your feast;
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

THE 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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

P. 389

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

<u>OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK</u>			
TODAY			Apr 27
9:00	-	Handbell Choir Practice - Sanctuary	
10:00	-	Worship Service - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
MONDAY			Apr 28
<i>No Scheduled Activities/Church Office Closed/Pastor Vacation</i>			
TUESDAY			Apr 29
<i>Pastor Vacation</i>			
6:00	-	Scouts Committee Mtg - Fellowship Hall	
WEDNESDAY			Apr 30
9:30	-	Folding Bulletins	
1:30	-	Prayer Time	
2:00	-	Pastor's Bible Study	
THURSDAY			May 1
9:30	-	LCMC Pr Cluster Mtg	
FRIDAY			May 2
<i>No Scheduled Activities/Church Office Closed</i>			
SATURDAY			May 3
<i>No Scheduled Activities</i>			
NEXT SUNDAY			May 4
10:00	-	Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary	
11:00	-	Sunday School, Brunch and Adult Education	
12:00	-	Radio Broadcast – KRXT 98.5 FM	
Announcement			
On June 1, 2025, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Taylor, TX will be hosting an introductory session for Thrivent’s Money Canvas Program. Area churches have been invited and a luncheon will be hosted by St. Paul, the introductory session will be conducted by Michael Gates, Associate Representative with Thrivent.			
Luncheon at 1 pm (hot dogs and hamburgers)			
Introductory Session at 2 pm			
If you like to attend, please RSVP with planned number of attendees to office@stpaultaylor.com by May 18 th .			
Serving Today			
Council Ushers:	Kathy Paulsen, Debbie Matthys		
Reader:	Sharon Naivar		
Acolytes:	Maddie Wilson		
Altar Flowers:	Open		
Serving May 4			
Council Ushers:	Terry Richter, Don Artieschoufsky		
Reader:	Randall Pick		
Acolytes:	Amelia Cotterill, Conley Paulsen		
Altar Flowers:	Ochoa		