

# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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April 7, 2024

## Second Sunday of Easter—Feast and Celebration

*The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.*

***GATHERING — “The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.”***

**PRELUDES**

*Easter Hymn—Setting by Thomas W. Jefferson*  
*Now The Green Blade Rises—Setting by Carl Schalk*  
*All Glory, Laud and Honor- Setting by John Carter*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The assembly stands.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

*The Trumpets Sound, The Angels Sing*

1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is  
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the  
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the

read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,  
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;  
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud

and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.  
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.  
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.

*Refrain*

Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.

Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.

Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.

The feast is read - y to be - gin;

the feast is read - y to be - gin.

**GREETING—P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you** 2 Cor 13:13

**KYRIE ELEISON**

**W&P #81**

*Luke 17:13; Luke 18:38-39; Psalm 123:2-3*

*Refrain*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

*Last time*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.

- 1 For peace in the world, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im -
- 3 For peace in our hearts, for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;  
passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;  
peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;  
cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;

for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise,  
that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood,

*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

## *Now the Feast and Celebration*

### Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy, to the God of life and love and free-dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

### Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and u - nit-ed us  
to be one great peo - ple of God. *To refrain*

### Verse 2

2. Pow-er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *To refrain*

### Verse 3

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to make us  
peo-ple of God; to make all things new. *To refrain*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray with one another. **C: Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **MESSAGE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART**

***WORD— “God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.”***

### **FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35**

*While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 133 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar <sup>1</sup> of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2**

*The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.*

A reading from 1 John.

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**L:** The word of the Lord. **C:** **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Thy Word*

Thy word, thy word is a lamp un-to my feet.

Thy word, oh, thy word is a lamp un-to my

feet; and a light un-to my path, and a light un-to my

path. path, and a light un-to my path.

**GOSPEL: John 20:19-31**

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

**P:** The holy gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter.  
**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When 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.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”



<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So 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.”

<sup>26</sup>A 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.” <sup>27</sup>Then 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.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But 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.

**P: The gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **SERMON**

*The assembly stands.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks*

*Refrain* F Dm Gm C

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give thanks to the ris - en Lord;

F Dm Gm C F

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, give praise to his name.

F Dm B<sup>b</sup> C

1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth;  
 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ;  
 4 God has pro - claimed the just re - ward:  
 5 Come, let us praise the liv - ing God,

F Dm B<sup>b</sup> C *Refrain*

he is the king of cre - a - tion.  
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.  
 now we shall live . . . for - ev - er.  
 life for all peo - ple, al - le - lu - ia.  
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

## **BAPTISM OF KYLIAN JEROME GORE**

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. The power of sin is put to death in this holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent out in mission for the life of the world.

P: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Kylian baptized into Christ? *Response by parents and sponsors:* **We do.**

P: As you bring this child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that he may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

P: Do you promise to help Kylian grow in the Christian faith and life? *Response by parents and sponsors:* **We do.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support Kylian and pray for him in his new life in Christ? **C: We do.**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

P: I ask you, the people of St. Paul's, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **C: I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **C: I renounce them.**

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **C: I renounce them.**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?  
**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **C: 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.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **BAPTISM**

P: Kylian Jerome, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give you daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Kylian with 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. (Isaiah 11: 2)

P: Kylian, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **C: Amen.**

### CANDLE

P: Kylian, let you light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

### WELCOME

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized. **C: Kylian, we welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share, as you join with us in giving thanks and praising God for God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. Amen and thanks be to God!**

### BAPTISM HYMN

*You Have Put on Christ*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, with three measures marked 1\*, 2, and 3. The lyrics are: "You have put on Christ; in him you have been bap - tized." The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

***(Sing three times)***

*Please be seated or kneel for the prayers of intercession.*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*1st Timothy 2:1*

***Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*** (sung response)

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

A: 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.*

A: Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: O God of new life, just as we give thanks today for the baptism of Kylian, we pray for Lily Parvin who will celebrate her baptismal anniversary on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Continue to walk with her and her family, as she lives into the grace and love you have so graciously given her through her baptism. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain (*especially*). God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you (*especially.... and all whose lives have been given in faithfulness to the gospel*). Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*You are asked to remain in place and exchange a sign of peace with those around you.  
You may give a wave or peace sign to others beyond a safe reach.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **OFFERTORY**

***Servant's Prayer—Pino***

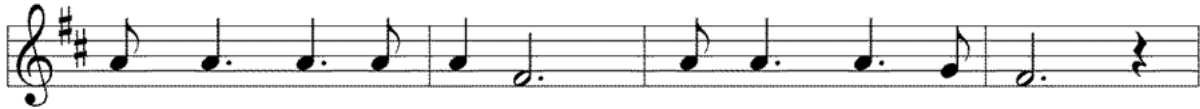
*The assembly stands.*

*MEAL—“God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ”*

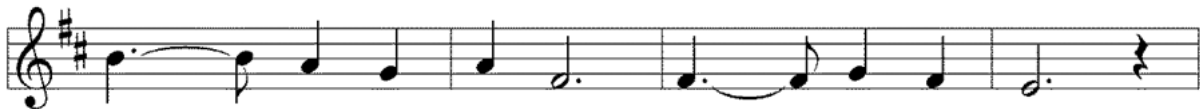
**OFFERTORY**

*What Have We to Offer?*

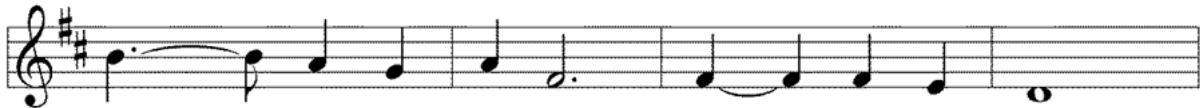
*1 Cor. 10:16; John 6:35*



1 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to share?  
2 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to bring?  
3 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to give?



Coins      from the      cof - fer,      hearts      filled with      care.  
Love,      ripe with      laugh - ter;      hope      that we      can sing;  
Eyes      that are      wide      o - pen;      lies      that we      won't live;



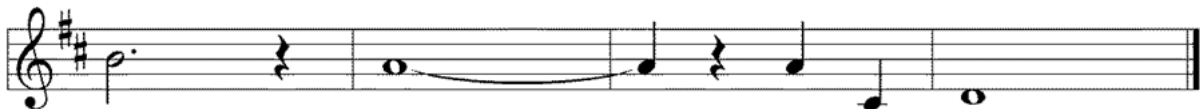
God      will not      fal - ter;      so      let us      dare  
dreams      of what we're      af - ter;      prom - is - es      of when.  
truth      that must be      spo - ken;      jus - tice      some - how.



lay      it at      the      al - tar      there.  
Lay      it at      the      al - tar      then.  
Lay      it at      the      al - tar      now.



4 What have we to of - fer?      What have we to



give?      Lives      we will live.



## OFFERING PRAYER

A: In our reading from Acts, we hear that the disciples shared what they had, and it was distributed to each as any had need. Let us pray with one another. **C: 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

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 our thanks and praise.**

P: 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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The second staff continues the melody with a 3/8 time signature change. The third staff features a 6/8 time signature and includes a key signature change to two sharps (F#, C#). The fourth and fifth staves continue the melody with various time signatures and conclude with a double bar line.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*Matt. 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-23*

P: You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God; everything is filled with your glory. We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have sustained the faithful in this and every generation. Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, resurrected from the grave, and who in word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal 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. 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.

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death, his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again. Send now, we pray,

your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation. This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4*

**C: 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**COMMUNION SONG**

*Lamb of God*

*John 1:29*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 you broke the bonds of sin and of  
 you are the way of mer - cy and

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,  
 death:  
 love.

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P:** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

## COMMUNION

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. C: Amen.

*At the direction of the Pastor you will be invited to receive Holy Communion at the altar or in your seats. For those receiving Holy Communion in your seats you will be invited first to receive communion by peeling back the tab and receive the wafer with the rest of the congregation as the Pastor says, "The Body of Christ given for you." Then turn the packet upside down so the wine/juice side is on top. Peel back the tab and receive the wine/juice with the rest of the congregation as the Pastor says, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." Please discard the empty packet and tabs after worship in the small bowls provided.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

### *Bread of Life from Heaven*



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing  
2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your  
3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -  
4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your  
5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this



thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be  
hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the  
self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is  
home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly  
bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with



sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.  
liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.  
food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.  
One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.  
ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

COMMUNION HYMN

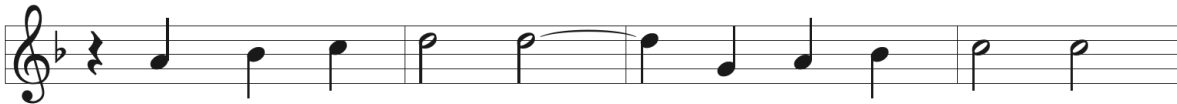
*When We Are Living*



*Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,*  
 1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,  
 2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain, . . . .  
 3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find . . . .



*y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.*  
 and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .  
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace, . . .  
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind; . . .



*Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,*  
 Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,  
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,  
 and when we help them, or when we feed them,



*so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.*  
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.  
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.  
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

## **TABLE BLESSING**

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

**C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray.

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.

**C: Amen.**

***SENDING—“God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world”***

## **BLESSING**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P: The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
+ bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN

## *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.  
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed  
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



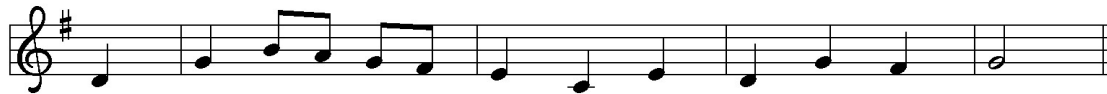
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.  
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

## DISMISSAL

Luke 7:50

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen. C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

A: Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. C: **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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### Today's Worship Assistants

**Altar Guild:** Jayne Poole, Judy Heckler, Gloria Beer, Janet Lincoln, Debra Croisette

**Assisting Minister:** Dawn Krown

**Communion Assistants:** Denny Detweiler and Brittney Jones

**Greeters:** Betty Shoemaker

**Lectors:** Danielle Brasch

**Ushers:** Ron Schneck/Youth Ministry

### Calendar of Events - Week of April 7, 2024

**Monday 4/8:**

**Tuesday 4/9:** Easter Wondering and Wandering Walk 9:30 am

**Wednesday 4/10:**

**Thursday 4/11:** Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

**Friday 4/12:**

**Saturday 4/13:**

**Sunday 4/14:** Sunday Worship and Children's Ministry 9:30 am, Sunday Morning Adult Faith Conversations 10:45 am in the Parlor

*Readings for Next Sunday: Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48*

### Bulletin and Flower Sponsors

Altar Flowers for today are sponsored by the Koch Family in memory of Thomas and Evelyn Gagnon.

Bulletins for today are sponsored by Susan Mensch in memory of Betty Mensch.



*Thank you to Diane King for sharing your musical talents with us as our guest organist today.*







## Baptized Today

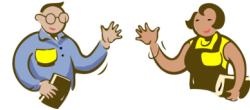
Today during our worship service, Kylian Jerome Gore will be claimed as a child of God in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Kylian is the son of Ashley and Sean Gore and the grandson of Leslie Gore. We warmly welcome them, as well as their relatives and friends!



### **Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Schedule**

- April 7—help in worship
- April 14—class time
- April 21 – Earth Day walk
- April 28—class time

### **New Member Classes**



New Member Classes—Today (April 7) and  
April 28 at 10:45 am

New Member Reception—Sunday, May 5  
during 9:30 am worship service with a time of  
fellowship in the Fellowship Hall after  
worship

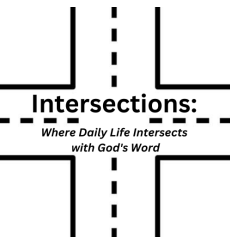
### ***Easter Wondering and Wandering Walks***

**Tuesday mornings during the Easter season at 9:30am in the Library**

An uplifting morning that starts with wondering about the chapters in 1 Timothy, followed by wandering the streets and alleys of Telford.



Please join us for this time of spiritual and physical activity as we see new growth in ourselves and in the local neighborhood. We will always *wonder* on Tuesdays, but we won't *wander* if it's raining!



### **Intersections: Sunday Morning Adult Faith Conversations**

Led by Pastor Coleman or Marian Henry on the 2nd and 4th  
Sunday of the month at 10:45 am in the Parlor.

The next gathering will be **April 14.**



### **St. Paul's Bible Study**

**April 18 at 12 pm**

Join us in Christian Fellowship for this informal time to reflect, discuss and learn. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

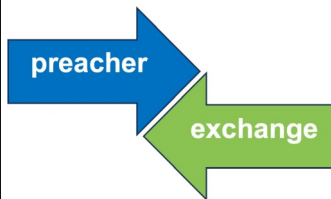
## Upper Bucks WELCA Spring Gathering

Saturday April 20, 2024 at Durham Lutheran Church  
(821 Durham Rd, Riegelsville, Pa 18077)

Registration starts at 9:00, with breakfast following at 9:30



Guest speaker Tina Tranauskas is from Worthwhile Wear, a local organization which helps victims of human trafficking. Come join us to help bring awareness to this very important issue.



On **Sunday, April 21**, the churches of the Indian Valley Cluster will be participating in a pulpit exchange. That morning, we will be joined by Pastor Erika Wesch from Little Zion Lutheran Church in Telford. Pastor Coleman will be preaching at Advent Lutheran in Harleysville.



## Bear Creek Summer Camp Registration Information

St. Paul's loves Bear Creek Camp and we want more of our kids and youth to love it also! Summer camp registration is now open! Registration information is located on the Youth bulletin board across from the Library. Several camperships are available to St. Paul's youth.

Speak with Janet Lincoln or Marian Henry for more information.

## Souderton End Gun Violence March

Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. at Zion Mennonite Church  
149 Cherry Lane, Souderton, PA 18964

Join us as the Souderton faith community organizes a peaceful outdoor march and letter writing to support legislation to help end gun violence



## Mark Your Calendars!

Our annual **Youth Work Camp** (for youth going into 4<sup>th</sup> grade through Senior High) will be held **June 24-27 from 8:30am-3pm**. Each day our youth will volunteer at a variety of local non-profits with other youth from Grace Lutheran in Hatfield and Emmanuel in Souderton.

**Vacation Bible Camp** will be held at Little Zion Lutheran **July 29-August 1 from 9am until noon**. This summer theme is "Camp Firelight" where kids will be reminded about several Bible heroes who trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name. Each morning will include lively music, a puppet skit, science, crafts, Bible stories, snacks and outdoor game activities!

Our annual **Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Game** will be **Saturday, August 24** for a 6:35pm game against the Rochester Red Wings

# Prayer List

*In order to keep the prayer list as up to date as possible, names will be kept on the list for four weeks unless notified otherwise.*



## **Please Pray For...**

Rod Alderfer	Jim Lombardo
Glenn Derstine	Anne Macy
Norm Driscoll	Amber Voehringer
Dottie Fogel	

## **Please Continue to Pray For...**

Lisa Bealer	Cheryl Hutchison	Joanne Romano
Dick Clark	Jim Hurley	Carrie Scary
Maxine Detweiler	Roger Jones	Robert Scott Sr.
Carolyn Evans	Brent Johnson	Dean Shollenberger
Susan Farrington	Gayle King	David Somers
Roland Fernandez	Al Landis	Jeff and Heather Spillane
Suzanne Fernandez	Keith Landis	Andrew Strauss
Tim Greiser	Tracey Leinen	Claudette Strauss
Harvey Groff	Bill Lincoln	Linda Tierrmo
Lorraine Guarino	Anna Long	Carole Ann Vogel
Gloria Harpel	Stacey Lusk	Fred Wahl
Leslie Harpel	Gene Moyer	

## **Comfort for the Bereaved**

Family and Friends of Betty Dewey  
Family and Friends of William Lewis (*Uncle of Marian Henry*)  
Family and Friends of Diane Planutis (*Niece of Barbara Potucek*)

**For Large print copies of the worship service, please see an Usher.  
Hearing devices are on the rack at the Visitor's Center.**

## Welcome Kids!!

Children are ALWAYS welcome in worship! Our kid-friendly Pray-Ground is located in the front-left section of the Sanctuary. Activity bags are located on the rack in the Gathering Space.  
*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them..." Matthew 19:14*

### Contact Information:

Pastor – Rev. Bill Coleman	Office: 215-723-8981, Cell: 814-823-9742 pastor@stpaulstelford.org
Office Administrator – Ashley Bromley	215-723-8981 secretary@stpaulstelford.org
Director of Christian Education – Marian Henry	215-723-8981 dce@stpaulstelford.org
Director of Music/Organist– Kristine Fosbenner	215-257-4707
Feast and Celebration Service – Mike King	215-723-8981
Congregation President – Ray Landis	610-287-5499 council@stpaulstelford.org
Sexton - Al Lightner	215-368-0374
St. Paul's on the Web	<a href="http://www.stpaulstelford.org">www.stpaulstelford.org</a>



**Mobile Giving at St. Paul's!** – Scan this code with your mobile device, or visit [www.stpaulstelford.org/giving](http://www.stpaulstelford.org/giving) to see other ways to give to our ministry.

### Most Recent Financial Information (Last Updated 2/29/2024)

Checking Account - February 2024		Checking Account - YTD	
Beginning Balance 2/1/2024	\$15,666.99	Beginning Balance 1/1/2024	\$21,496.43
Deposits (monthly)*	\$41,529.53	Deposits to Date*	\$60,169.07
Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$57,196.52	Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$81,659.50
Expenses (monthly)	\$47,015.05	Expenses to Date	\$71,478.03
Ending Balance 2/29/2024	\$10,181.47	Ending Balance 2/29/2024	\$10,181.47
<b>Ending Fund Balances as of February 29, 2024</b>			
Memorial Fund	\$38,707.78	Benevolence	\$4,682.23
Capital Reserve	\$69,469.27	Special	\$122,713.13
<b>Liabilities as of February 29, 2024</b>			
Mortgage Balance	\$1,673.81		