

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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6 p.m. Sat., March 16, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., March 17, 2024
Sermon: "What a Priest We Have in Jesus!"



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(6 p.m. Sat., March 16, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., March 17, 2024)

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat., Ruthie Witte; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Doris Hill

Usher: Nick Gunn

Missionaries: Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf and the Siouxland Hispanic Ministry

Elders: 6 p.m. Sat. Daryl Heimgartner, 8:15 a.m. Sun. Dallas Schulz

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat. Liz Sanders; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Bob Greene

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER Today's Epistle speaks of Jesus, our High Priest. High priests are called to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people as well as themselves. Jesus is a different sort of high priest who offers Himself as sacrifice, once for all, that we might be forgiven and granted eternal salvation. In the Gospel, Jesus proclaims that He came not to be served, but to serve. He came to offer His life as a ransom for us. As we follow Jesus, we are called to reflect His actions and attitude of service and sacrifice. May we likewise go to serve and sacrifice for others.

HOLY COMMUNION The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE FOUR

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(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Hand of Fellowship

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences

P: What a priest we have in Jesus!

C: He is our source of eternal salvation.

P: He sympathizes with us in our weakness.

C: He offers prayers and supplications for us.

P: He serves us and sacrifices Himself for us.

C: What a priest we have in Jesus!

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 *Psalm 116:1–4, 8; antiphon: Psalm 43:1*

P: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

C: from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

P: I love the LORD, because he has heard

C: my voice and my pleas for mercy.

P: Because he inclined his ear to me,

C: therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

P: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

C: I suffered distress and anguish.

P: Then I called on the name of the LORD:

C: “O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”

P: For you have delivered my soul from death,

C: my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

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: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

C: from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

The Kyrie “Lord, Have Mercy” (*Sung*)

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P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You are our great High Priest. Teach us to follow Your example of service and sacrifice for others, so that more people may know of the forgiveness that can only be found in You; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 31:31–34 (God’s new covenant)

³¹“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those

days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.

C: O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Epistle Lesson Hebrews 5:1–10 (Jesus is our great High Priest.)

¹Every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him who said to Him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

⁶as He says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence.

⁸Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

Verse Mark 10:45

P: Even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,

C: and to give His life as a ransom for many.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Mark 10:35–45 (The Son of Man came to serve and give His life.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to [Jesus] and said to Him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And He said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to Him, “Grant us to sit, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, in Your glory.” ³⁸Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?”

³⁹And they said to Him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or

at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

(Please be seated)

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

“Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus”

LSB 529

Sermon

“What a Priest We Have in Jesus!”

The Prayer of the Church

P: We turn to our great priest Jesus in prayer, who has promised to hear us and intercede for us.

For what a priest we have in Jesus,

C: who became our sacrifice.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, be present with all those who are vulnerable and in need of advocacy, especially those in abusive relationships, the homeless, the disabled, and all children. Give us courage to be advocates and intercessors for those in need just as You are an advocate and intercessor for us. For what a priest we have in Jesus,

C: who became our sacrifice.

- P: Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us as we endure the temptations and assaults of the devil. Forge our shields of faith to be stronger in resistance of Satan and his fiery arrows. Forgive us when we fail. For what a priest we have in Jesus,
C: who became our sacrifice.
- P: Lord Jesus Christ, You have borne our griefs and shared in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief. Point them to the hope of the resurrection to eternal life that You have won for all who believe in You. For what a priest we have in Jesus,
C: who became our sacrifice.
- P: Lord Jesus Christ, You learned obedience through suffering. Strengthen us when we face suffering to learn obedience to Your Word of truth. For what a priest we have in Jesus,
C: who became our sacrifice.
- P: Lord Jesus Christ, as a priest You serve and sacrifice. Teach all people in Your church to follow Your example of service and sacrifice for the sake of others. For what a priest we have in Jesus,
C: who became our sacrifice.
- P: Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, *especially Linda Brinkert, Ron Sherrill, and Michael Montagne, Don Lantis, Barb Hageman, Judy Seaman, Steve Segebart, Bernie Attema, Jacob Sulzbach, Vickie Johnson, Ron Will, Carolyn Stuhr, and Kim and Sharon Sparr.* Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your wisdom. For what a priest we have in Jesus,
C: who became our sacrifice.
- P: Lord Jesus Christ, be with those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to Your Word including; Jennifer Ferris, Amber Hines, Matthew Jaminet, Stacy Jaminet, Kelsey Dodds, Alicia Elliott, Jeanne Heimgartner, Earl Horlyk, Ryleigh Shine and Jason Marrinan. For what a priest we have in Jesus,
C: who became our sacrifice.
- P: Lord Jesus, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.

Matthew 6:21—For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Offertory Hymn

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB 430 vs.1,2

(Stand as you are able)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

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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 salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and great High Priest, who suffered for us in order to make us perfect.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy (*Sung*)

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Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly 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, our great High Priest, we beg You, O Lord, to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who came to serve and give His life for us. 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

Words of our Lord

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Reading of the Communion Announcement Card

(Please be seated)

The Distribution Hymns

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” LSB 637

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” LSB 770

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” LSB 435

(Stand as you are able)

Nunc Dimittis (Sung)

**C: O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav’nly peace, For I have seen the
glory Of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy
hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel. All glory to the Father, All
glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One; For as in the
beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God’s triune name resounding Through all
eternity.**

The Post Communion Collect

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this
Meal. We ask that You would strengthen us as we journey toward Holy Week,
trusting in Jesus, the source of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ,
Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus & Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

The Closing Hymn

"Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

Silent Prayer

Postlude

+ + + + +



LET MY PEOPLE GO!

Lenten Service Times

Wednesdays
 at 12:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 (A Lenten Meal will be served following the 6 :00 p.m.)

Our emphasis during Lent is on Moses' book called Exodus. In it, Moses asks Pharaoh to let God's people go seven times (Exodus 5:1; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3) and Pharaoh finally does it! When he does, God's salvation is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. Israel's Scriptures mention the **exodus 125 times!**

Throughout the book of Exodus God reveals who He is through His absence and His presence, through His silence and His speech, through His wrath and His mercy, and through His judgment and His amazing grace. In doing so, the book paints a beautiful portrait of Jesus.

Ash Wednesday	02/14	"Big Things with Small Stuff"	Exodus 2:1–10
Lent 1	02/21	"How God Changes Us"	Exodus 3:1–14
Lent 2	02/28	"Stop Trying and Start Trusting"	Exodus 14:1–29
Lent 3	03/06	"Strike the Rock!"	Exodus 17:1–7
Lent 4	03/13	"Mine!"	Exodus 20:1–17
Lent 5	03/20	"Digging Ourselves into a Hole"	Exodus 32:1–14
Palm Sunday	03/24	"A New Beginning!"	Exodus 34:1–8
Maundy Thursday	03/28	"Access!"	Exodus 24:1–11
Good Friday	03/29	"Agnus Dei"	Exodus 12:1–13
Easter Sunday	03/31	"Against all Odds!"	Exodus 15:1–18

- * Maundy Thursday & Good Friday: 12:15 & 6:00 PM
- * Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday: 8:15 & 10:45 AM
- * Easter Sunrise Service: 7:45 AM
- * Easter Breakfast: 7:00 –11:00 AM

