


St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

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www.siouxcitystpauls.org



With great **power** the apostles
continued to **testify** to the
resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 4:33, NIV

6 p.m. Sat., April 6, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., April 7, 2024
Sermon: "Easter Makes a Difference"



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

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

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

(6 p.m. Sat., April 6 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., April 7, 2024)

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat. Ruthie Witte; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Charles Streeter

Usher: Steve Segebart

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

Elders: 6 p.m. Sat. Randy Johnson; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Daryl Heimgartner

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat. Marlis Hilden; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Doug Lehr

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 When Thomas finally met Jesus, alive again after Easter, he went from demanding proof to a personal confession of faith, "My Lord and my God." It would have been a different story had the news been false. The rest of the Jerusalem congregation truly exhibited Easter faith when they became a welcoming community, one that shared with newcomers whatever they needed. The news was unbelievable, but so were the responses—in word and deed as faith saw the freeing truth: we need fear nothing, not even death. We have heard the news as well. How shall we respond?

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, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE ONE

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

The Ringing of the Bells

The Hand of Fellowship

(stand as you are able for the last verse)

(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.**

Confession and Absolution

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(A moment of silence for reflection of God's word and self-examination)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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: 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 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

C: **if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

P: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name;

C: **make known His deeds among the peoples!**

P: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;

C: **tell of all His wondrous works!**

P: Glory in His holy name;

C: **let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!**

P: Seek the Lord and His strength;

C: **seek His presence continually!**

P: Remember the wondrous works that He has done,

C: **His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.**

P: He remembers His covenant forever, the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

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: Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

C: if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

The Kyrie “Lord, Have Mercy” (*Sung*)

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P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: 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.

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.

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

C: Amen.

This is the Feast (*Sung*)

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(Refrain) This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. (Refrain)

2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength and honor, blessing, and glory are His. (Refrain)

3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

4. Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. (Refrain)

5. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

(Final Refrain) This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (*Sung*)

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that our Easter faith not be only a matter of Sunday tradition, but will change how we care for one another and share our joy in active love and service each day; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Acts 4:32–35

(Believers use everything they have to help one another.)

³²The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

C: Christ has risen from the dead. [God the Father] has crowned Him with glory and honor. He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

The Second Reading

1 John 1:1—2:2

(God is light; He forgives our sins.)

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

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

¹My 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. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel)

The Holy Gospel John 20:19–31 (*Thomas professes Jesus as his Lord and God.*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.** (*Sung*)

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, 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 in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger

into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, 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; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, 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 believed."

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

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** (*Sung*)

(Please be seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "O Sons and Daughters of the King" LSB 470 Sts. 1, 5–9

Sermon "Easter Makes a Difference"

The Nicene Creed

The Prayer of the Church

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

Heavenly Father, Your Son is the firstborn from the dead. In Him, we have been reborn into a new and living hope. Nurture us with the pure milk of Your Word, that we may grow to maturity of faith and have everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant to those ordained for Your service the gift of the Spirit, wisdom that comes down from above, and grace to faithfully fulfill their holy calling where You have placed them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: As Your people are united in the common life and love of our Savior, grant that we would share that life and love with those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Build up the households of Your people, that Your holy children, begotten in Baptism, may grow in Your grace and share together in Your forgiveness and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: As Your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, give Your presence and comfort to the troubled in our midst especially Michael Montagne and also be with those dealing with ongoing sicknesses: Deb Wolfe, Pat Berger-Conlon, Jeanette Amble, Barb Hageman, Linda Brinkert, Don Lantis, Judy Seaman, Steve Segebart, Bernie Attema, Jacob Sulzbach, Vickie Johnson, Ron Will, Carolyn Stuhr, and Kim and Sharon Sparr. Comfort also those who weep, especially Dudley Joines and Family as his mother passed away, with the blessed joy of Easter morning. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including: Doug Schuldt, John Windle, KC Jager, Rodner Feller, Ryder Huff, Jessica Rasmussen, Richard Brown, Darrin Dodds, Cooper Ferris and Dennis Hageman Sr. Lord in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that out of Your indescribable grace, for the sake of Your Son, You have given us the Holy Gospel and instituted the blessed Sacraments, that through them we may have comfort and the forgiveness of sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily believe Your Word, and through the Holy Sacraments establish our faith day by day, until at last we obtain 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.

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.

Ephesians 5:1-2—Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ love us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Offertory Hymn "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" LSB 849

(stand as you are able)

Offertory (Sung) *Psalm 116: 12-13, 17-19*

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface (Sung)

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P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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) *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

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Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not spare Your only Son but gave Him into death that we might have life. Though we cannot understand

Your love or comprehend eternity, we lift our voices in thanksgiving and pray You to strengthen us through this Sacrament to serve as Your witnesses. Use us, we pray, so that the people around us will see our faith in all Your gracious promises.

P: Gathered in Jesus' name, we pray that You would forgive, renew, and strengthen us. Gather us with all who are faithful so that together we may join the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be glory, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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Words of our Lord

Pax Domini The Peace of the Lord *John 20:19*

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

C: **Amen.** (*sung*)

Agnus Dei "Lamb of God" (*Sung*) *John 1:29*

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Reading of the Communion Announcement Card

(Please be seated)

The Distribution Hymns

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

LSB 633 vs. 1,2,3,6,7

"The Lamb"

LSB 547

"Lamb of God"

LSB 550

(Stand as you are able)

Thank the Lord (*Sung*)

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C: **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.**

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.

**He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Post Communion Collect

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P: Let us pray.

We give You thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Sacrament. We pray that You would strengthen us by it to use each day to praise Your gracious name and pass Your love on to those whom we meet; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

