

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 20-21, 2024

*"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education"*



..... *Love  
In Action*

Music of Preparation,  
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

**Our Ministry:** We are a people of God who are: *"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."*

**Welcome!** God sets a table before us and anoints us with the oil of gladness; our cup overflows (see Psalm 23:5; 45:7). Welcome to worship!

**Devotions & Publications** are available in the Main Entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... **WORSHIP NOTES** .....

**\*Communion: *The Lord's Supper - A Reverent Sacrament***

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27,29, "Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the Lord's cup in an unworthy way is guilty of sinning against the Lord's body and blood. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the Lord's body brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks." In view of the serious nature of the Lord's Supper, Paul commands us to examine ourselves to see if we are partaking the supper for the purposes for which Christ instituted with our hearts properly prepared. We heartily invite Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to receive of the Lord's Supper. Other guests, we ask you to see the pastor or lay minister first so that you may receive the supper to your benefit rather than to your harm as the Apostle Paul warns.

NOTE: If you are allergic or cannot drink full strength wine, The two (2) cups in the center of each tray have water with a drop or two of wine.

**Note About Attendance Cards...**Remember that the only way we may know you are worshipping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. ***Please list the name of each person in worship.*** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

**To Our Visitors...**Please sign our guest book found in the main entryway. Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

*(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)*

**Notes for Worship:** As you prepare to receive the Lord's Supper this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for use before and after receiving the Lord's Supper (page 308 as well as on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

### **Before worship prayer**

*Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord.  
AMEN.*

### **We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!**

**Opening Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**      *LSB, hymn #700*

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in Thee inherit; Let us find Thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee,  
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heav'n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

## INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**      *Matthew 28:19b*
- 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.**      *1 John 1:8-9*
- P: Dear Friends in Christ, let us humble our hearts before our Holy God and silently reflect upon our sins.  
*(Moment of silent reflection)*
- 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. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.      *John 20:19-23*
- C: **Amen**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

**This is the Feast (Sung)**      *Revelation 5:12-13, 19:5-9*

- C: **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**  
**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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

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

P: Let us pray . . . .Risen and ascended Lord, You are the Good Shepherd. You lay down Your life for the sheep; they are Yours. Empower Your church to reach every sheep that belongs to You and to give witness until You have brought all Your sheep into one fold; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

*(Please be Seated)*

**THE READING OF THE WORD**

**Epistle Lesson:** 1 John 3:16-24 *(Love In Deed And In Truth)*

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

Stand

**Alleluia and Verse - Common**

*John 6:68*

**C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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

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

**Gospel Lesson:** John 10:11-18 *(Jesus Is The Good Shepherd)*

[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be Seated)*

**Sermon Hymn: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"** *LSB, hymn #709*

The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
My ransomed soul He leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever!

### Sermon: "Love In Deed And Truth"

1 John 3:16-24

#### Stand

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen**

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . . You are our Shepherd and You provide us with all we need to support this body and life. We lack for nothing. Help us to appreciate all the good gifts You have given us of clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, when we are lost and weary, You restore our souls. Make us to lie down in the green pastures of Your Word and Sacraments, basking in the abundance we find in those good gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, in this fallen world we often walk through the valley of the shadow of death. War, terror, disease, and chaos threaten to steal our peace of mind. Remind us daily that we need not fear any evil since You are with us, since Your rod and staff comfort us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord, send healing to all who are sick, injured, and recovering. O Lord, we pray that You be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). Restore their health with the overflowing abundance that comes only from Your hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)*

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

**C: Hear Our Prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

*(Please be Seated)*

## **Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards**

### **OFFERTORY - Let The Vineyards**

*LSB, Hymn # 955*

**C: (Sung) Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*(In preparation to receive the Sacrament, please read the Communion notes on page 2)*

P: Let us pray, . . . It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord our God. You call us to be Your people and invite us to bring our cares to You in prayer. You did so love the world that You sent Your only Son to be our Redeemer. By His sacrificial life and death and glorious resurrection He has brought us salvation and has shown us the path to life eternal. Pour upon us now the gift of the Holy Spirit that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord with true devotion in this sacred fellowship of Your pilgrim people. Grant us a foretaste of the feast to come, heavenly Father, that we may with increased faith joyfully await a blessed eternity in Your glorious presence. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### **SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy**

*Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*

**C: (Sung) 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.**

P: O Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me. In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*Mt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

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

*John 20:19*

**C: And also with you.**

### **Agnus Dei ~ The Lamb of God**

*John 1:29*

**C: (Sung) 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.**

*(Please be Seated)*

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

#### **LSB588 - Jesus Loves Me**

Jesus loves me! This I know,

For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong;

They are weak, but He is strong. *(Refrain)*

Refrain

*Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!*

*Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me! He who died

Heaven's gates to open wide.

He has washed away my sin,

Lets His little child come in. *(Refrain)*

## LSB524 - How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
And drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole  
And calms the heart's unrest;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul  
And to the weary, rest.

Dear name! The rock on which I build,  
My shield and hiding place;  
My never-failing treasury filled  
With boundless stores of grace.

O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,  
My Prophet, Priest, and King,  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
Accept the praise I bring.

How weak the effort of my heart,  
How cold my warmest thought!  
But when I see Thee as Thou art,  
I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim  
With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
And may the music of Thy name  
Refresh my soul in death!

## LSB525 - Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

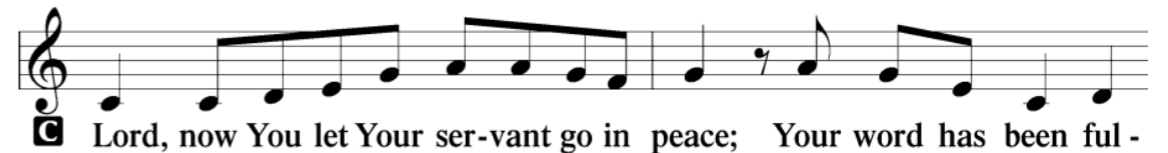
Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

### POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: Nunc Dimittis:



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -  
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
 veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray . . . . Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith, that we may always follow You and never stray from Your one flock; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
 C: Amen

**BENEDICTION**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.  
 C: **(Sung) Amen**

**Closing Hymn: "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me" LSB, hymn #683, tune 766**

Jesus, Thy boundless love to me  
 No thought can reach, no tongue declare;  
 Unite my thankful heart to Thee,  
 And reign without a rival there!  
 Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;  
 Be Thou alone my constant flame.

O grant that nothing in my soul  
 May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;  
 Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,  
 My joy, my treasure, and my crown!  
 All coldness from my heart remove;  
 My ev'ry act, word, thought be love.

This love unwearied I pursue  
 And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.  
 Oh, may Thy love my hope renew,  
 Burn in my soul like heav'nly fire!  
 And day and night, be all my care  
 To guard this sacred treasure there.

In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,  
 In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;  
 And when the storms of life shall cease,  
 O Jesus, in that final hour,  
 Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,  
 And draw me safely to Thy side!

**See You In Worship Next Week!**

**After worship prayer**

*Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.*

*There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.*

*Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.*

**Altar Flowers** The altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of our parents and grandparents, Marvin & Irine Roelfs and Bob Ostrowski, by Bill & Heidi Ostrowski, Jen Ostrowski and Liz Lesch.

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

<b>Rev. Karl J. Koeppen</b> . . . . . Senior Pastor <b>Rev. Roger A. Drinnon</b> . . . . . Associate Pastor <b>Mr. Richard Nordmeyer</b> . . . . . Interim Principal	<b>Rev. David Baker</b> . . . . . Missionary to Mongolia <b>Church &amp; School Office:</b> . . . . . 932-0312
<b>Church Campus</b> . . . . . 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee <b>School Campus and Church &amp; School Office</b> . . . . . 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais <b>Church &amp; School Website</b> . . . . . <a href="http://www.stpaulslutheran.net">www.stpaulslutheran.net</a>	

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**(PK)**

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