

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4-5, 2024

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



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!** Jesus says, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love" (John 15:9, NRSV). One way we do that is to gather in Christian community. Welcome, beloved ones!

**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...**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 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** - O Lord God, Heavenly Father, You gave Your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification. By Your Holy Spirit grant us newness of life that through the power of Christ's resurrection we may dwell with Him forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

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

Opening Hymn: "By Grace I'm Saved"

LSB, hymn #566

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;  
My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why stagger at this word of promise?  
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
No! Then this word must true remain:  
By grace you too will life obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;  
Our works and conduct have no worth.  
God in His love sent our Redeemer,  
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;  
His death did for our sins atone,  
And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior,  
Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit  
That Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone,  
That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain;  
As long as God is true, it stands.  
What saints have penned by inspiration,  
What in His Word our God commands,  
Our faith in what our God has done  
Depends on grace - grace through His Son.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
Since I am saved by grace alone.

### 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

*Revelation 5:12-13, 19:5-9*

C: (Sung)

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 . . . O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

*(Please be Seated)*

### THE READING OF THE WORD

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7

*(We Are God's Children!)*

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

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 fourteenth chapter.

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

Gospel Lesson: John 14:23-29

*(Do Not Be Troubled)*

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. "All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the

Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be Seated)*

**Sermon Hymn: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”**

*LSB, hymn #733*

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

**Sermon: “Do Not Be Troubled. . . ”**

*John 14:23-29*

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. . . . Heavenly Father, You have revealed Your love for all people by sending Your Son to be our Savior. Look with mercy upon those who do not yet know Him and open their hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit that they may be receptive to the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Lord Jesus, as You walked upon this earth You loved and cared for all people equally. We pray today for the elderly of our church and community, that You may give them strength. We pray for those who are sick and hospitalized, that You might grant healing. We pray for all who are lonely and depressed, that You might draw them close to Yourself and give them the comfort of Your Holy Spirit. 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*). Bless them with Your presence and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Holy Spirit, You have given new life to Your people through the proclamation of the Gospel. Grant to us heartfelt love for those who are lost that we may yield our lives to spreading the Gospel news of Jesus to this world in need of salvation. Give to us righteous discernment that we may understand the great need in our communities, as well as the world. 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 proper that we should give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have come to redeem Your fallen creation. Through the saving work of Jesus Christ, whom to know is everlasting life, we are granted all good things and are directed in ways of peace. Through the working of Your Holy Spirit, bestow upon us Your benediction that we may abide in Your love, sharing that wondrous love in all our words and deeds throughout our life's journey on earth. 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**

##### **LSB602 - The Gifts Christ Freely Gives**

The gifts Christ freely gives	He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride,	His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts	Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ	And cling to His strong name.

The gifts flow from the font	Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes	Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins	With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself	Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.

The gifts of grace and peace      From absolution flow;  
The pastor's words are Christ's      For us to trust and know.  
    Forgiveness that we need      Is granted to us there;  
The Lord of mercy sends      Us forth in His blest care.

The gifts are there each day      The holy Word is read;  
God's children listen, hear,      Receive, and they are fed.  
Christ fills them with Himself,      Blest words that give them life,  
    Restoring and refreshing      Them for this world's strife.

The gifts are in the feast,      Gifts far more than we see;  
    Beneath the bread and wine      Is food from Calvary.  
    The body and the blood      Remove our ev'ry sin;  
We leave His presence in      His peace, renewed again.

    All glory to the One      Who lavishes such love;  
    The triune God in love      Assures our life above.  
His means of grace for us      Are gifts He loves to give;  
All thanks and praise for His      Great love by which we live!

### LSB656 - A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,      A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need      That hath us now o'ertaken.  
    The old evil foe      Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might      Are his dread arms in fight;  
    On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,      Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One,      Whom God Himself elected.  
    Ask ye, Who is this?      Jesus Christ it is,  
    Of Sabaoth Lord,      And there's none other God;  
    He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,      All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;      They shall not overpow'r us.  
    This world's prince may still      Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none.      He's judged; the deed is done;  
    One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain      Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain      With His good gifts and Spirit.  
    And take they our life,      Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
Though these all be gone,      Our vict'ry has been won;  
    The Kingdom ours remaineth.

### LSB619 - Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

    Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,  
Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,  
These are my life and strength forever,  
    By them my hungry soul is fed.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!*


With Thee, Lord, I am now united;  
    I live in Thee and Thou in me.  
No sorrow fills my soul, delighted  
    It finds its only joy in Thee.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!*

Who can condemn me now? For surely  
    The Lord is nigh, who justifies.  
No hell I fear, and thus securely  
    With Jesus I to heaven rise.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!*


Though death may threaten with disaster,  
 It cannot rob me of my cheer;  
 For He who is of death the master  
 With aid and comfort e'er is near.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
 Be for my soul the highest good!*

My heart has now become Thy dwelling,  
 O blessed, holy Trinity.  
 With angels I, Thy praises telling,  
 Shall live in joy eternally.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
 Be for my soul the highest good!*


**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 . . . Lord Jesus Christ, once again You have welcomed us at Your Table of grace. Grant that this Sacrament that we have now received may strengthen us so that we may abide in loving service day by day. As we have shared in the blessings of Your Table, grant that we live each day as Your people who see people around us as You see them and love them as You love them. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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: "How Firm a Foundation"**

*LSB, hymn #728*

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
 Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
 What more can He say than to you He has said  
 Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

“Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
 I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
 That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
 I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!

“When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,  
 My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.  
 The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
 Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

“Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove  
 My sov’rign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
 And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,  
 Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

**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** Altar flowers this weekend are given to the glory of God in honor of our Confirmation by the Jr. Confirmation Class of St. Paul’s.

## 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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