THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3-4, 2025

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



Music of Preparation,

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

Welcome! Welcome to worship, friends! As Jesus met Saul (later called Paul) in a powerful light and voice on the road to Damascus, so he meets us here. It might be less dramatic, but it's no less real.

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

*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 worshiping 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. <u>*Please list the name of each person in worship.*</u> (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 in the main 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

We implore You, O Lord, in Your kindness to show us Your great mercy that we may be set free from our sins and rescued from the punishments which we rightfully deserve; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

LSB, hymn #611

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me, Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die. As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above, Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity! Love that found me - wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart, Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod. Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me; All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own. He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word! When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way; Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

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 . . . O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, 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

First Lesson: Acts 9:1-22

(Jesus Appears To Saul)

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." And all who heard him were amazed and said. "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

Stand (as you are able)

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 twenty-first chapter.
- C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: John 21:1-19

(Jesus Appears To The Disciples)

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "Come, Follow Me,' the Savior Spake" LSB, hymn #688

"Come, follow Me," the Savior spake, "All in My way abiding; Deny yourselves, the world forsake, Obey My call and guiding. O bear the cross, whate'er betide, Take My example for your guide.

"I am the light, I light the way, A godly life displaying; I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying. I am the way, and well I show How you must sojourn here below.

"My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing; And gracious words My lips express, With meekness overflowing. My heart, My mind, My strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.

"I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your soul's salvation, Your heart from ev'ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation. I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heav'nly goal."

Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,
And, firmly clinging to His Word,And take the cross appointedFor those who bear the battle's strainThe crown of heav'nly life obtain.

Sermon: "Follow Me!"

John 21:1-19

Stand (as you are able)

- 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 people of God in Christ Jesus, for His church, and for all people according to their needs. . . . Blessed Lord, You forgave Peter his betrayal and appointed him to feed Your sheep. Forgive our sins, restore us to Your service, and bless all that we do that it may be to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: By Your grace, O Lord, You turned Saul from an enemy of Your kingdom into Your servant and sent him as an apostle to the Gentiles. Turn the hearts of our own rebellion, and by Your Spirit wear down our resistance to Your Word, that we also may be bold witnesses to Your mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

- P: According to Your will, O Lord, You heal the sick. Hear us on behalf of all who suffer any ill of body or mind and grant them strength for the day and keep them in Your grace to everlasting life. We lift up before You 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*). O Lord, Grant them a strong and sturdy faith in the days of their trial and deliver them from their troubles. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: By Your grace, O Lord, You have named us as Your own in the baptismal water and joined us to Christ's death and resurrection. Grant that by Your grace we may live holy, upright, and godly lives, displaying in our life and conduct the goodness of Your love and mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

- P: As Your Son has granted, O Lord, we come to His Table there to receive the fruits of His redeeming work in this communion upon His body and blood. Nourish us for faithfulness in this life, and by this Holy Communion nurture in us the grace to keep us to everlasting life. 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:	The Lord be with you.	2 Timothy 4:22
C:	(Sung) And also with you.	-
P:	Lift up your hearts.	Colossians 3:1
C:	(Sung) We lift them to the Lord.	
P:	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	Psalm 136

- C: (Sung) 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 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 t 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 t 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.
- C: And also with you.

Agnus Dei ~ The Lamb of God

John 1:29

John 20:19

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

LSB628 - Your Table I Approach

Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer. Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands; A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me, Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery; God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

LSB783 - Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King; Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold; Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

LSB482 - This Joyful Eastertide



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.... We give You thanks, O Lord, that You have rescued us from our rebellion and redeemed us from sin and its death. Grant us grace that we may keep in holy hearts and live out in holy lives what we have here received

in the Word of the Gospel and the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and preserve us in this faith even to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, 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 t give you peace.
- C: (Sung) Amen

Closing Hymn: "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" LSB, hymn #922

Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own. In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever. Go, My children, with My blessing - You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory. Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me; Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free. Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you. Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace; I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace: I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother. Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer - Almighty and everlasting God, through Your Son You have promised us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Govern our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that in our daily need, and especially in all time of temptation, we may seek Your help and, by a true and lively faith in Your Word, obtain all that You have promised; through the same 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 in loving memory of my parents, Byron and Bernice Aasland and grandmother Lydia Volkmann Jannusch by Kathy and Terry Treece; also to the glory of God in honor of our Confirmation by the Jr. Confirmation Class of St. Paul's.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor	Rev. David BakerMissionary to MongoliaRev. Ross EngelAdopt-A-ChaplainChurch & School Office:932-0312	
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