



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Karl J. Koeppen Senior Pastor	Rev. David Baker Missionary to Mongolia
Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor	Rev. Ross Engel Adopt-A-Chaplain
Mr. Brian Porter Principal	Church & School Office: 932-0312
Church Campus 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee	
School Campus and Church & School Office 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais	
Church & School Website www.stpaulslutheran.net	

Visitors. . . Please sign our guest book found in the narthex (entrance). Our church 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.

COMMUNION

As you prepare to receive the Lord's Supper, we invite you to turn to page 329-330 in the front of the hymnal and review section 4: "Christian Questions and their Answers." and to pages 308-309 or on the inside front cover of the hymnal for appropriate prayers before and after communion.

As we celebrate the LORD'S SUPPER today, we confess the REAL PRESENCE

We come to the Lord's Table because we have sinned and want the Lord's assurance of His forgiveness of our sins as well as His strength for living the new life of His resurrection. As we eat the bread and drink the wine, because Jesus says so, we also receive His very Body and Blood. Doing this in repentant faith, we receive His forgiveness. With forgiveness must also come the repentant new life, seeking and using His power to overcome sinful ways and forsaking them. This includes any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us and unfaithfulness in regular worship and attendance at the Lord's Table. Only in such faith do we properly and profitably receive the Sacrament and not misuse it to our judgment.

As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public confession to our unity in the Christian faith. We invite communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to commune. Prompted by love and caring, we ask that guests who wish to receive the sacrament please speak with the pastor or lay minister before the service.

Directional Notes:

- Please follow the indications of the ushers as they direct you to the communion rail.
- The wine will be administered by both the common cup and individual cup. If you prefer the common cup, please let the individual cup pass and reach out for the common cup as it comes to you.
- Individual cups should be placed in the plastic lined baskets at the end of the communion rail.
- 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.

Maundy Thursday

“A New Passover”

April 2, 2026; 7:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER ...The name for this day comes from the Latin word "mandatum," meaning "commandment." It refers to the two "new" commandments our Lord gave to His disciples on this day. The first is "love one another," and the second is "do this in remembrance of Me." In the early church, Maundy Thursday was also the day on which those who had fallen away from the Church were restored to full fellowship with other believers after having observed the 40-day penitential season of Lent. Today we are reminded of the reconciliation we have because of Christ's body and blood given for the forgiveness of our sin, and the example of self-giving love shown by our Lord as He washed the feet of His disciples. Our service today is the "first act" or portion of what the early Church observed as "the triduum," a three-day observance of the events of our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. Even though Christians come and go during these three days, the worship services from now through the great Vigil of Easter are considered to be one continuous service.

Ringing of the Bells

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Tonight!

PREPARATION

(The Pastors enter the church in silence)

Stand (as you are able)

Opening Hymn: “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”

LSB, hymn #602

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!

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: **Amen.**

P: We gather this evening to commemorate a most holy night, a night when God sealed His covenant with His people through bread and wine. Tonight we receive God's most precious gift of forgiveness for His people. Our Father in heaven desires to restore a right relationship with His children. To this end, He has established a new covenant with each of us in His Son, Jesus Christ. It is our Father who declares: **“I will be their God, and they will be My people.”** Therefore, let us speak God's Word and confess our sins before Him, seeking His forgiveness and grace. . . . O Almighty God,

C: **When we look into the mirror of Your perfect law, we are reminded that we are no better than our ancestors. We rebel against You like the Israelites on the way to the Promised Land. We are like King David, committing sins we think no one will know about. You know us. You**

know our transgressions and sins against You and one another. We humbly come to You seeking forgiveness. Sprinkle our hearts and make them clean. Forgive our sins by the blood of Jesus that was given and shed for us. Renew a right spirit within us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

P: Blessed people of God, you have confessed your transgressions to the Lord. He forgives your iniquity and will remember your sin no more. Therefore in the stead and by the command of my Lord, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . . . Lord Jesus Christ, by Your life-giving Word and wondrous Sacrament, You give to us the benefits of Your death and resurrection.

C: Guide us as we remember You and receive what is Yours alone to give - life and salvation, full and free. Grant that as we are loved and forgiven, we may love and forgive others through the lives we live in You.

P: For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C: Amen!

(Please Be Seated)

Special Music: "Behold The Lamb" *Hosanna Choir, Nancy Eden, Soloist*

+ WORD +

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:1-14 *(God's Passover)*

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. Take care of them until the

fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. Do not eat the meat raw or cooked in water, but roast it over the fire - head, legs and inner parts. Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover. "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn - both men and animals - and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD - a lasting ordinance.

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 *(I Pass On To You)*

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Stand (as you are able)

Verse - Lent *Joel 2:13*

C: (Sung) Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

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

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

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me-- one who is eating with me." They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely not I?" "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it. "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God." When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: "Your Table I Approach"

LSB, hymn #628

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.

Pastor's Message: "God Gives. . ."

Mark 14:22-24

Stand (as you are able)

NICENE CREED

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. . . Lord God, on this night we remember how You rescued Your people from slavery in Egypt and brought them to the Promised Land. We are reminded of how You have rescued us from slavery to sin and are bringing us to Your heavenly kingdom. Nourish our faith and lead us to walk in Your ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, You made covenants with Your people throughout the centuries. Yet, in these last days, You have made a new covenant with us through Your Son. Make this covenant known among us and all peoples of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord Jesus, As You gathered Your disciples for the Passover feast in the upper room, so gather us as a family of faith to partake of Your Eucharist Feast. May You strengthen the bonds of fellowship among Your people as we partake in this foretaste of the feast yet to come. Lord, in Your mercy;

C: hear our prayer.

P: O God, as we gather at Your table, we give thanks for the faithful witness of those no longer with us here on earth who rejoice now in Your eternal presence. May we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to serve You constantly all our days. 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)

Offering & Attendance Cards

Stand (as you are able)

OFFERTORY - Create In Me

LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193

C: (Sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

SACRAMENT

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

PREFACE

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 up to the Lord.

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

Psalms 136

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER

(from "The Didache, 2nd Century writings on the Teachings of the Twelve Apostles")

P: Let us pray, . . . We thank You, Holy Father, for Your name which You enshrined in our hearts. We thank You for the knowledge and faith and immortality which You revealed to us through Your servant Jesus. To You be glory forever.

C: Almighty ruler, You created all things for the sake of Your name; You have given us food and drink to enjoy so that we might give You thanks. Now You have shown us favor through Jesus, Your servant, that we might have spiritual food and drink as well as eternal life. Above all we thank You because You are mighty. To You be glory forever.

P: Remember, O Lord, Your Church and deliver her from all evil. Perfect her in Your love; and, once she has been sanctified, gather her together from the four winds into the kingdom which You have prepared for her. For power and glory are Yours forever.

C: May grace come and this world pass away! Hosanna to the God of David. If any are holy, let them come to Your table. If any are not, let them repent. Amen.

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

All: 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.

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

C: **And also with you.**

Agnus Dei ~ The Lamb of God - Divine Service 1

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

Special Music: "Behold The Lamb Of God"

Hosanna Choir

LSB629 - What Is This Bread

What is this bread?
Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.

What is this wine?
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing!
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

So who am I,
That I should live and He should die
Under the rod? My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me?
O taste and see—the Lord is free.

Yet is God here?
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
In mouth and soul He makes us whole—
Christ, truly present in this meal.
O taste and see—the Lord is real.

Is this for me?
I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe That I receive
His very body and His blood.
O taste and see—the Lord is good.

LSB637 - Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

LSB643 - Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Stand (as you are able)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P: Let us pray, . . . Our Father, during this week of Jesus' Passion, when we remember and attend to all that Your dear Son gave for us, You have provided us with a memorial of the Passover meal and the freedom from bondage and slavery it embodies.
- C: Through the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood, You have freed us and granted us Your peace.**
- P: Strengthen us in the living hope that all our sins are forgiven through Jesus until we come at last to celebrate with all Your saints the Lamb's high feast in His kingdom which lasts forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.
- C: Amen.**

Closing Hymn: "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

LSB, hymn #422

On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation!

Here, O Lord, You labored greatly, On that cross in grief and pain,
Carried there my sin, and bought me, Freedom, grace and life regained,
May Your life, You gave for me, Change my heart eternally,
Bless my life with Your bold power, Fill me now this very hour.

On the cross You grant me pardon, Freedom and forgiveness giv'n,
Gracious Jesus, as You suffered, Thought of me buried in sin,
Conqu'ring sin, death and the grave, You have the great pow'r to save,
Jesus Christ my firm foundation, Grants me life and full redemption.

See You In Worship Tomorrow.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 22 (*While the Psalm is read, the altar and chancel are stripped of all vessels, appointments, and paraments, symbolizing the abuse our Lord would endure beginning shortly after instituting the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*)

SEE INSERT

After the Psalm, please depart in silence.

There is no Benediction. Our worship continues tomorrow.

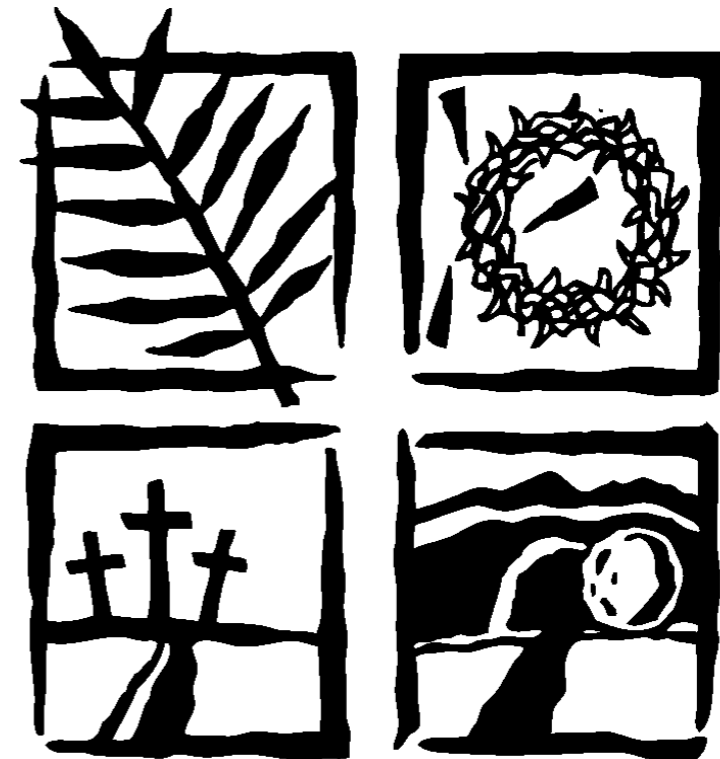
We hope to see you there!

***(Holy Week devotion continues tomorrow,
Good Friday, at 12:05 & 7:00 p.m.)***

Serving In God's House Today

- Preacher:** Pastor Karl Koeppen
Liturgist: Pastor Roger Drinnon
Organist: Nadine Engel
Lay Minister: Rich Engel
Acolytes: Lana McHugh, George Morocho Loja
Trustee: Jeff Johnson
Ushers: Bill Balgeman, Mike Callan, Jeff Johnson, Steve Weith
Choir:

Hope Brammer, Chloe Butler, Natalie Cherry, Sarah Cherry, Mike Clendenin, Liz Deck, Olivia Douglas, Katrina Drinnon, Brent Eden, Nancy Eden, Rick Einfeldt, Isaac Fabbro, Ruth Fabbro, Gail Ferrebee (Director), Duane Ferrebee, Adele Hinze, Elayne James, Sandy James, Ben Kubal, Elizabeth Kubal, Alena Lagesse, Heidi Ostrowski, Sharla Ronchetto, Cindy Rubin, Daphne Sexton, Delilah Sexton



Holy Week Service Schedule

GOOD FRIDAY - JESUS SUFFERS FOR US!!	
Friday, April 3 rd - 12:05 p.m.	(Downtown Church Campus)
GOOD FRIDAY - TENEBRAE - SERVICE OF DARKNESS	
Friday, April 3 rd - 7:00 p.m.	(Downtown Church Campus)
SATURDAY - NO WORSHIP SERVICE - April 4th	
EASTER SUNDAY - JESUS IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD FOR US!!	
Sunday, April 5 th 6:00 a.m. Communion . . .	(Downtown Church Campus)
9:00 a.m. Communion . . .	(Downtown Church Campus)
11:00 a.m. Communion . . .	(Downtown Church Campus)

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