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'come to (

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

COMMUNION

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (3K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

Worship Focus: When there are tornados touching down in our area, we take shelter. We go to an interior room with windows or to the basement and hunker down. We know what it's like to be confined and cowering. The disciples were gathered behind locked doors and terrified of persecution. No matter what fears have us feeling trapped, Jesus comes to us today and offers the message of forgiveness, proof of his presence, and the confidence of eternal life in him. "Our Risen Lord Calls Out Peace."



Stand

The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and

punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy. Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will. Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia	<i>CW</i> 442 sts. 1–2
 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, 	Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; sin - less in the sin - ners' stead. 	Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
•) see the place where he was laid; "Christ is ris'n," to - day we cry;	Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him for the ran - som paid. now he lives, no more to die. PRAYER OF THE DAY	Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and Sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be Seated

BAPTISM

[Sunday 10:30]

Malachi Joseph Bramstedt son of Luke and Megan

FIRST LESSON

Acts 18:1-11

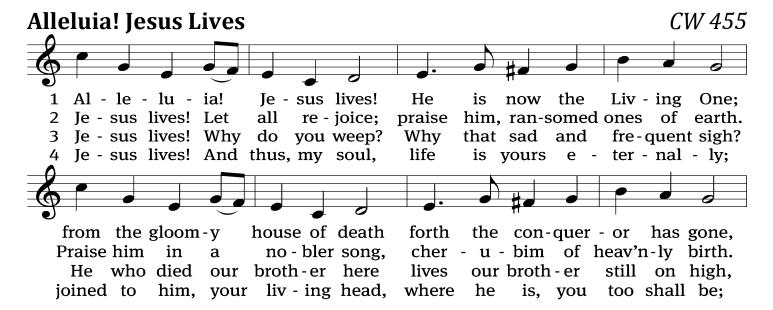
Our risen Lord told Paul to find peace in his presence and protection as he ministered in Corinth.

¹After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ²There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. ⁴Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

⁵When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. ⁶But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

⁷Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. ⁸Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

⁹One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. ¹⁰For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." ¹¹So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.





skies of bright fore - run - ner to the his peo - ple, yet rise. to Praise the Vic - tor - King, whose sway and death and hell sin o - bev. lives for - ev - er be - stow bless - ings his Church be - low. to on you with him at his right hand vic - tor o - ver death shall stand.

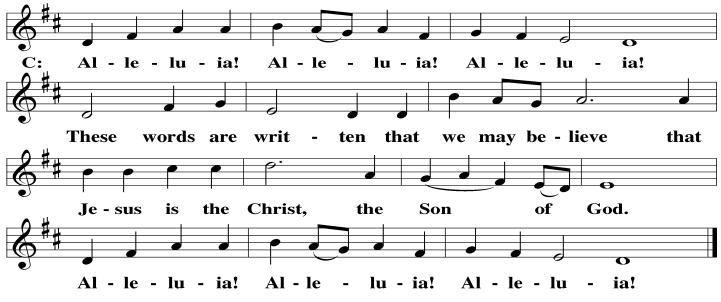
SECOND LESSON

1 John 1:1–4

The apostles saw and touched our risen Lord so that we might have the fellowship of peace and joy with them.

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ²The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴We write this to make our joy complete.

VERSE OF THE DAY



Stand

GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

Our risen Lord called out peace to his disciples as he appeared to them, gave them the Spirit, and took away their doubts.

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

²¹Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy

Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

²⁴Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

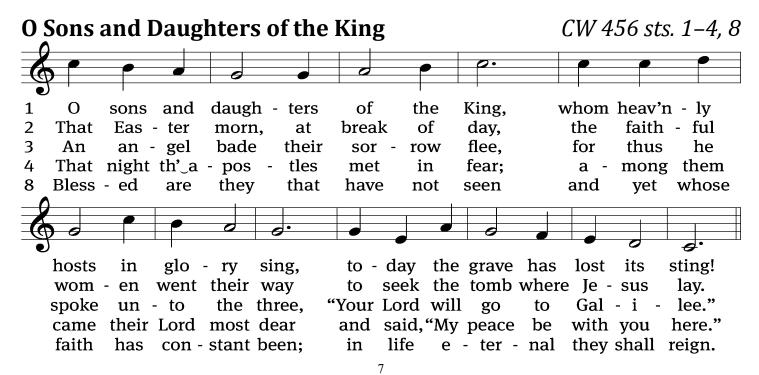
²⁸Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



Be Seated





SERMON

John 20

My Lord and My God! 1. That's our Jesus 2. That's our faith

Stand

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be Seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord of life, fill our hearts with joy during this season, for you have risen and conquered the grave. Imprint the message of victory on our hearts and implant it in our minds. Through the good news of your resurrection renew our hope and revive our faith. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

By baptizing us into your name, you have connected us to your death and rising. You have put our sin to death and have given us a new life. Enable us each day to think of ourselves as dead to sin and alive to you, so that we may walk in newness of life in all we do. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

In this fallen world, death and sorrow surround us. Touch the hearts of those who grieve the loss of a Christian they love. Direct their eyes to your empty tomb and ease their pain by reminding them that their loved ones will one day rise again. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Lord, many people grieve without hope. Let the message of resurrection reach them and awaken faith in their hearts. Use us as your instruments to bring the word of life to their souls and the message of hope to their hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Stay by the side of all who are suffering. In your wise mercy, heal those who are sick, receiving treatment for illness, recovering from illness or surgery, or hurting in body or mind. Remind them that your victory over death is a fact, and comfort them with your promise to raise them and give them and all believers new, glorified bodies like yours. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Special intercessions

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Risen Savior, feed our faith with the message of your resurrection. Come to us in your Word and in the feast of your Sacrament to sustain and strengthen us until we feast with you in eternal glory.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.



Stand

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

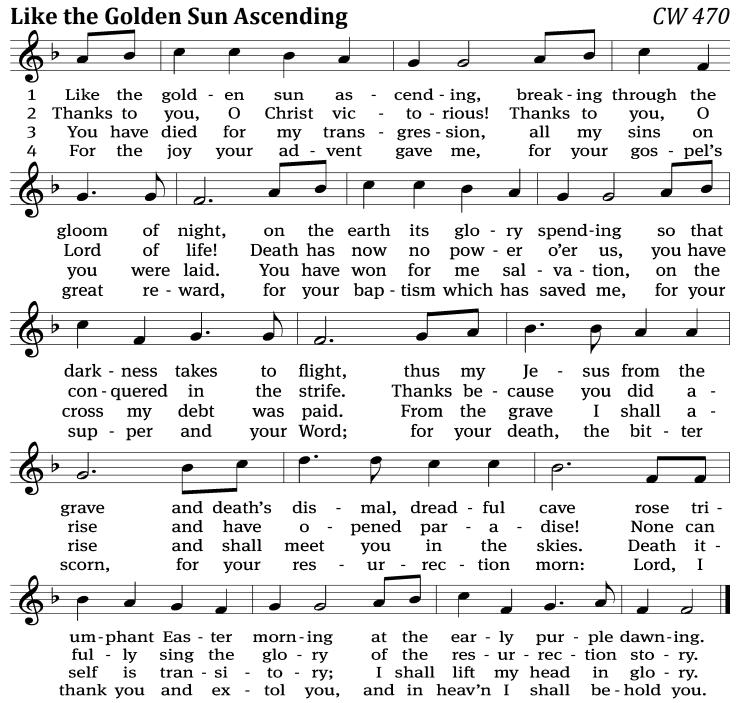
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



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Be Seated
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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PRESIDING MINISTER & PREACHER: Pastor Norv Kock

SERVICE ACCOMPANIST: Marilyn Toepel

ALTAR GUILD: Ione Prange, Lisa Specht, Christina Sprenger.

USHERS: 8:00a.m.- Dan Radue, Austin Radue, Nick Bindfeld, Curtis Hanson.

10:30a.m. – Tom Ehrenberg, Logan Schroeder, Joe Grzonka, Jamie Hass.

6:00 p.m. – Bill Reichardt.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.

OFFERINGS: 3/30 & 4/1 - \$26,200 (NEEDED EACH WEEK \$19,200). \$470 YOUTH GROUP. \$2,700 GROWING FORWARD.

Attendance: Maundy Thursday - 173. Good Friday: 1:00 p.m. - 302, 6:30 p.m. - 142. Easter Sunday: 6:30 a.m. - 64, 8:00 a.m. - 255, 9:30 a.m. - 292.

In our prayers this week...

1. Malachi Bramstedt, baptized this weekend.





This Week at a Glance:		
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times	
Sunday, April 7	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services	
	9:15 a.m 10:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour	
Monday, April 8	6:00 p.m. Monday Worship	
	7:00 p.m. NO Choir	
Wednesday, April 10	8:30 a.m. Mindful Moms Bible Study	
	9:00 a.m. Bible Study	
	9:45 a.m. Mindful Moms Play Date	
	4:15 p.m. Public School Catechism	
	6:30 p.m. Evangelism Committee	
Thursday, April 11	1:30 p.m. Ladies Aid	
Friday, April 12	2:00 - 10:00 p.m. MLHS Music Festival	
Saturday, April 13	7:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. MLHS Academic Fair	
Sunday, April 14	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship	
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour	
	10:15 a.m. Garden Gym Open	
	11:40 a.m. Voters Meeting for New Pastor Call	
Monday, April 15	3:30 p.m. Garden Gym Open	
	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship	
	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir	

Grow with Christ Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

- 1. **Thank You -** We are very grateful to Pastor Norv Kock for serving as our guest preacher and Bible study leader this morning. Pastor Kock is our afternoon principal release time teacher this school year; he also teaches part-time at Manitowoc Lutheran High School.
- 2. Adult Bible Study Today we will look at Jesus' conversation with Peter in John 21. Our risen Savior knows that his sheep need to be fed. He restores us and calls each of us to serve him in different ways.
- 3. **NEW Wednesday Bible Study** Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:00 for an enriching Bible study on 1 Thessalonians beginning Wednesday, April 10. Discover the timeless wisdom and insights of this epistle as we delve into its teachings together. Whether you're a seasoned scholar or new to the Bible, all are welcome to join in this journey of faith and understanding. Come, explore the words of Paul and their relevance to our lives today. See you there!
- 4. **Still time to register for the Women's Retreat:** Registration is extended for the April 20th Women's Retreat. Mel Kreuser will be presenting on the theme Sisters in Christ: God Created Us for Relationship + Great Things. The retreat will run from 9:00 AM 12:00 PM and will cost \$10. You can

pick up a registration form in the narthex or scan the QR code to register. Childcare will be provided. There is more information on the registration form and on posters throughout the building. If you have questions, you can email them to



womens.ministry @stpaulshowardsgrove.org.

5. **LWMS spring rally** will be held on Saturday, April 20 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Manitowoc. Registration is 8-9 a.m. and the rally program will take place from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. with luncheon to follow. Pastor James Borgwardt will speak about home mission work in our district. Join the ladies of our area to celebrate missions!

In Other News

1. NO Adult Choir practice on Monday, April 8.

2. Call Updates:

- a. The School Board decided in March to ask Greg Johnson to finish out this school year as the 3-4 grade teacher. We thank him for his willingness to serve in so many ways this year!
- b. Our Elders, together with Pastor Bode and Staff Minister Curia, have reviewed our church staffing needs and worked with our district leadership to plan a call meeting for another pastor. Pastor Bode will continue to serve as Associate Pastor but with a focus in the areas of Inreach, Worship, and

Administration. On April 14 after the 10:30 service we will have a call meeting for a new Lead Pastor with a focus in the areas of Education, Outreach, Integration, and Congregational Direction.

- 3. **New Members -** We were blessed to have 19 students in our Bible Information Class this year. 14 from the class have joined and more are planning to join! We welcome Jacob Brunner, Matthew Brunner, Rick & Karla Hameister, Rayven Kalmerton, Matt & Kali Thiel and their children Hannah & Caleb, Andrea Wodrich and her children Rory & Brooke, and Ben & Jamie Englebert. Watch for more information on the new member board.
- 4. **Garden Gym Hours -** From April 8 through May 20, we will have some open gym times in the Garden Gym for St. Paul's members and for St. Paul's school families. It will be open on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 pm, Wednesdays from 3:30-5:00 pm, and Sundays from 10:15 am until after late service for families who have attended early service and Family Bible Hour. The Garden Gym is for use by children ages 8 and under with parental supervision. It is expected that all posted regulations will be followed in order to properly care for the space and for those who use it.
- 5. Worship Service Ushers: Thank you to those who regularly volunteer to serve as ushers for our worship services. As we prepare the usher schedule, please consider serving for at least one month each year. A request for additional ushers in certain months (like July) will soon be sent via Church Community Builder (CCB). Please sign up via a response to this request or by placing your name next to a vacant position on the "Usher List" in the Member Room. Please contact Will Belitz (920-693-8837 or Cellular 920-946-6617) as questions arise. Thank you for serving your congregation.
- 6. **Open Gym** A weekly open gym will soon be restarting. (This is intended as a primarily member event.) If there is a certain day that works better for your schedule, please contact Logan Schroeder at <u>loganschroeder92@gmail.com</u>.
- 7. **The 2024 weekly window washing schedules** for St. Pauls are printed and can be found in the member room. There is also a sign-up sheet to fill in some open dates. If you would like more information or need to be removed from the current schedule, please contact Trevor Wehrmann.
- **8. LWMS Mission Offerings** will be collected until Sunday, April 21. A box will be available in the narthex for cash or checks made out to LWMS Shoreline Circuit.