



Stop  
Doubting  
and  
BELIEVE



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**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a  
Congregation in the Wisconsin  
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you!

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**Worship during these times:** All pews in the sanctuary are open for seating. Face coverings are optional -- up to the individual. Bibles and hymnals have been put back in the racks for use as desired. Hand sanitizer is available in the narthex. All responses and songs are printed in your bulletin, which may be taken with you or discarded after worship. Offerings may be placed in the designated boxes in the narthex.

**Communion** is offered in worship each month on the 2nd and 4th weekends. Members who are not yet comfortable returning to worship during the pandemic may schedule a communion appointment with a pastor.

**DVDs:** DVDs of our worship services can be made per request. Please contact the office to make arrangements. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you request one.

**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 (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.**



## THE COMMON SERVICE

**Today's Worship Focus:** *The disciples were cowering behind locked doors because they were terrified of the Jews, who had condemned their Lord to death and were now accusing them of stealing the body. Amid the fears and doubts we have in this world we need Jesus' reassurance. He reassured the disciples with his word of peace, with his hands and side, and with his Spirit. Just like Thomas, we weren't there on that first Easter evening to see and touch Jesus. Yet today, Jesus still speaks peace to our hearts. He reassures us with his Word that we may trust him and have life. Stop doubting and believe!*

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### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

*Son of God, Eternal Savior* | 492

- 1 **Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us, Honors all our human race,  
You our head, who, throned in glory, For your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with your love and pity; Heal our wrongs and help our need.**
- 2 **Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion; Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling, By your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure; Stem our selfish greed for gain.**
- 3 **Bind us all as one together In your Church's sacred fold,  
Weak and healthy, poor and wealthy, Sad and joyful, young and old.  
Is there want or pain or sorrow? Make us all the burden share.  
Are there spirits crushed and broken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.**
- 4 **As you, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.  
Freely have your gifts been granted; Freely may your servants give.  
Yours the gold and yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
We but stewards of your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.**

*Please stand.*

## INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

## HYMN

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* | 149

- 1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n today!"  
Saints on earth and angels say;  
Raise your joys and triumphs high;  
Sing, O heav'ns, and earth, reply.
- 4 Lives again our glorious King!  
Where, O death, is now your sting?  
Once he died our souls to save;  
Where your victory, O grave?
- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!  
Praise to you by both be giv'n!  
God has now fulfilled his Word;  
Praise the resurrected Lord!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray. Risen and ascended Lord, you are alive forevermore.

Increase our faith and inspire our witness. Fill your Church with the power of your resurrection to labor faithfully in joy until every tongue confesses, "My Lord and my God"; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

*Be seated.*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON

*1 John 5:1-6*

*Everyone who believes that Jesus is God's Son has been born again and overcomes the world.*

<sup>1</sup> Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. <sup>2</sup> This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. <sup>3</sup> In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup> for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

<sup>6</sup> This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalm 16*



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,



in the land of the liv - ing.

*Psalm tone*



Keep me safe, O God,\*  
for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord;\*  
apart from you I have no good thing."

I have set the LORD always before me.\*  
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

*Refrain*

My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;\*  
my body also will rest secure,  
because you will not abandon me to the grave,\*  
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.  
You have made known to me the path of life;\*  
you will fill me with joy in your presence.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Please stand.*

M: The Gospel according to John chapter 20.



**C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL**

***John 20:19-31***

*Jesus appeared to his disciples and overcame their doubts with his presence and peace.*

<sup>19</sup> On 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!" <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So 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.”

<sup>26</sup> A 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!” <sup>27</sup> Then 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.”

<sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But 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.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Be seated.*

- 1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me.  
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave Christ will recall me.  
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.
- 2 Jesus lives! To him the throne High o'er heav'n and earth is given.  
I shall go where he is gone, Live and reign with him in heaven.  
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.
- 3 Jesus lives! For me he died; Hence will I, to Jesus living,  
Pure in heart and act abide, Praise to him and glory giving.  
All I need God will dispense; This shall be my confidence.
- 4 Jesus lives! I know full well Nothing me from him shall sever,  
Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell Part me now from Christ forever.  
God will be a sure defense; This shall be my confidence.
- 5 Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate to life immortal;  
This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal.  
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: "Jesus is my confidence!"

## SERMON

*1 John 5**The Spirit Delivers Living Faith**Please stand.*

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
 tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

## OFFERING

*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.



## SPECIAL PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## THE SACRAMENT

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."**

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my  $\dagger$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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



C: A - men.

### O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

*O Sons and Daughters of the King* | 165

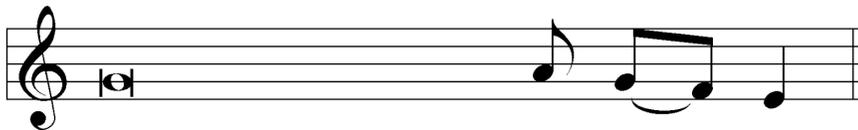
- 1 O sons and daughters of the King,  
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,  
Today the grave has lost its sting!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 2 On that first morning of the week,  
Before the day began to break,  
The Marys went their Lord to seek.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 3 An angel bade their sorrow flee,  
For thus he spoke unto the three,  
"Your Lord will go to Galilee."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 4 That night th' apostles met in fear;  
Among them came their Lord most dear  
And said, "Peace be unto you here."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 5 When Thomas afterwards had heard  
That Jesus had fulfilled his word,  
He doubted if it were the Lord.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 "Thomas, behold my side," said he,  
"My hands, my feet, my body see;  
And doubt not, but believe in me."  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied;  
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"You are my Lord and God," he cried.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

8 **Blessèd are they that have not seen  
And yet whose faith has constant been;  
In life eternal they shall reign.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

9 **On this most holy day of days  
To God your hearts and voices raise  
In laud and jubilee and praise.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Please stand.*

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: **And his mercy endures for - ev - er.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



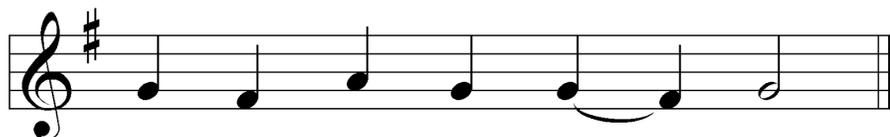
C: **A - men.**

## THE BENEDICTION

M: 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.



C: **A - men. A - men. A - men.**

*Be seated.*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing* | **318**

- 1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended; Oh, be now 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.**
  
- 2 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.**

*SPECIAL MUSIC COPYRIGHT INFORMATION*

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*SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE*

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Adam Bode

**PIANIST:** Kayla Sprenger

**ALTAR GUILD:** Konni Harbach, Dawn Marten, Carol Reinemann, Sheryl Nehls.

**USHERS:** 8:00 a.m.- Dan Radue, Bryan Koeser, Austin Radue, Chad Pennings, Nick Binsfeld;  
10:30 a.m.- Logan Schroeder, Jamie Haas, Eric Vant Hul, Joe Grzonka.

**OFFERING: 3/1, 3/2, & 3/4: \$29,157 (WEEKLY BUDGET GOAL: \$15,700).**

**\$200 - MEMBER ASSISTANCE. \$200 - CHOIR FUND.**

**\$131,251 WAS RECEIVED FOR GROWING FORWARD BRINGING THE TOTAL GIVEN TO DATE TO \$817,200. WHEN WE ADD THE REMAINING PLEDGES, THE TOTAL HAS GROWN TO \$1,520,000. WE HAVE COLLECTED 54% OF THIS TOTAL WITHIN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 2021. GOD IS GREAT!**

**In our prayers this week...Thanksgiving for a healthy son, Alexander, born to Chad and Jessica Hemenway.**

# Weekly Announcements

## **Worship Service Update:**

We are returning the sanctuary to pre-pandemic use. All pews are available for seating. Hymnals and Bibles are available for use and are returned to each pew. Face coverings will be used by lay leaders who assist with the Lord's Supper (for a time). Offering boxes will still be used in the narthex for the gathering of thank-offerings (no sending around the collection plates). For questions or comments, please contact Elders Chairman Bill Reichardt or one of the pastors.

1. **Office hours** are Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.. You can reach Erin at [secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org).
2. **Evangelism Bible Study** - Since our congregation is planning to expand ministry to share the gospel with more people, we also want to equip each of our members to be active sharers of the gospel. Join us when we resume Sunday morning April 11 as we look at God's Great Exchange.
3. **Teen Bible Study** – Our next Youth Group Bible Study will resume in April. We will meet during Family Bible hour on Sunday 4/18, 4/25 and then again on 5/9 and 5/16. We will be skipping the Sunday of 5/2 due to Confirmation. This 4 week study will be looking at Gideon. All students in grades 7<sup>th</sup> through Seniors in High School are encouraged to attend, we will meet in the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. For any questions, contact Mike Leahy [mleahy@live.com](mailto:mleahy@live.com).
4. **Sunday School** will take a break for Easter weekend and resume on April 11.
5. **Adult Basketball:** Want to get some exercise? Want to see if you've still "got it"? Join us for adult basketball each Tuesday night beginning at 7:00pm. Join us any Tuesday that you are able. It is some good exercise and great camaraderie. Contact Brandon Lis (920-226-0483) with any questions or to be added to the adult basketball communication list. Hope to see you on the court!
6. **Mindful Moms** - Join us on **April 14 at 8 am** for our next installment of Hymns for Her as we look at "Holy Spirit, Light Divine". Then get set for a fun playdate all about Spring on **April 21 at 10am**.

7. **Quarterly Voter's Meeting:** Our next quarterly voter's meeting will take place on Sunday, April 25th at approximately 11:45 a.m. The main agenda item at this meeting will be the approval of the 2021/2022 budget. We look forward to seeing all of you there.
8. **Growing Forward Giving Envelopes** are available in the member room by the cabinets or in the office on the top part of the office desk. They can be placed in the offerings boxes in the narthex or in the wooden box on Erin Radue's desk.
9. **Cemetery Clean-up:** Our cemetery committee is asking that all Christmas wreaths be removed by the end of April, at the latest. Thank you!
10. **Principal Call:** Our principal, Chad Marohn, has returned the divine call to serve as principal at St. Paul's in Green Bay! We thank God for his continued service among us (and Ann's)!
11. **Pastor Mueller** received a divine call to Beautiful Savior in Summerville, SC, a suburb of Charleston. The call is to do outreach to the area and help start two more area WELS churches. Your input is welcome!
12. **The St. Paul's Car Show** will take place August 14 this summer. The Show will run from 9-2 with food trucks serving from 11-2. We are looking at having various classes for cars and trucks and one for motorcycles. More info to come over the next months. Mark your calendar!
14. **Thursday Evening Bible Study** begins April 15 at 6:30pm. We are going to study love...dating, marital love, God's love, and working lovingly through tension - as we study the book of Song of Songs.
15. **Men's Early Bird Bible Study.** Ten men looked at various subjects: global warming, Catholicism and authority, Sola Scriptura, bondage of the will, Christian burden bearing, and evangelism creativity. Our next Bible study is April 23.
16. **Craft-Men's Evening Bible Study.** Our next evening Bible study is Thursday, April 15 @ 6:30.

17. **After Easter we plan to have *Two Adult Sunday Bible Studies*.** We are starting an Adult Bible Stories Bible Classon the book of Mark. The main class will be in the gym, the Adult Bible Stories will be in the commons.
18. **Wednesday Bible study** resumes April 14. At the request of some, we will study Psalm 119!
19. **Pastor Mueller's 2022 Trip to Israel is still happening!** Imagine Tours and Travel is set to open this summer with trips to Israel (and more). There are 25 people signed up (among the three pastor hosts) and the bus can hold 20 more. January 10-20, 2022. Direct flight to Israel from Chicago. For more information, please contact Pastor Mueller.
20. **St. Paul's former Pastor Rossman** preaches his farewell sermon today at his church in Whitewater, WI. He is retiring from ministry. Several of our members are heading there for it. He and his wife Linda are moving to Phoenix. If anyone would like to send a card, this is their new residence: 11425 S Pawnee Circle, Phoenix, AZ 85044.