

ORDER OF WORSHIP
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 20/21, 2024



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
The People of St. Paul's, the Ministers
474 Yalick Road
PO Box 802 – Dallas, PA 18612
Phone: 570-675-3859; email: stpaul@epix.net
Website: www.stpaulsdallaspa.org

Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor
Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist
Senior Choir & Chimes
Jean Grube, Youth Choir Director

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday: 9:30 am till 4:00 pm
Friday: 9:30 am till Noon

TODAY'S WORSHIP

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! God sets a table before us and anoints us with the oil of gladness; our cup overflows (see Psalm 23:5; 45:7).

THE IMAGE of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

WORSHIP BEGINS in our gathering. Please enjoy greeting and conversation in the Narthex, and respect those who have entered the Sanctuary to pray, meditate, and listen to the prelude with silence and an atmosphere of reverence and peace as we all prepare to hear God's word.

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available; please ask an usher for help.

THE BLUE WELCOME PAD in the pew rack is our record of your attendance and communion (or you may leave a message for Pastor Grube, note a new address or phone number). Please take a moment to complete it.

LEAVING THE SANCTUARY during worship? Please use the side doors with the panic bar latches; they open and close silently. **TURNING OFF** cell phone and other electronic devices is greatly appreciated.

IF YOU'D LIKE someone's name to be added to our prayer list spoken in worship and printed in the bulletin, please be sure to contact the church office or complete the prayer request card on the table in the Narthex before worship. Cards added after worship will be included in the following week's prayer list. In either case you will continue to have the opportunity to say aloud or remember silently that person's name during the intercessory prayers.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for April 28: Acts 8:26-40, 1 John 4:7-21 and John 15:1-8.

GATHERING

PLEASE NOTE: Parts of this service are omitted for Saturday's worship.

PRELUDE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

Richard Proulx

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand as you are able to face the font for the Confession.

CONFESSION

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

By our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, God raised us to new life. Let us confess to God our sins and all that waits for resurrection in our lives.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

God of love,

we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us.

Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN #369

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

WORD

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Shepherd
Cherub Choir

Arr. Charlotte Larson

CHILDREN'S SERMON [Sunday]

FIRST READING

Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

A reading from Acts.

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are being asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfilled God's commandments.

A reading from 1 John.

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. And by this we will

know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Jesus says, I am | the good shepherd* I know my own and my | own know me.

GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

SERMON

Stand as you are able for the Hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY # 502

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say Peace be with you or similar words.

MEAL

OFFERTORY #181

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the



brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister leads the prayer.

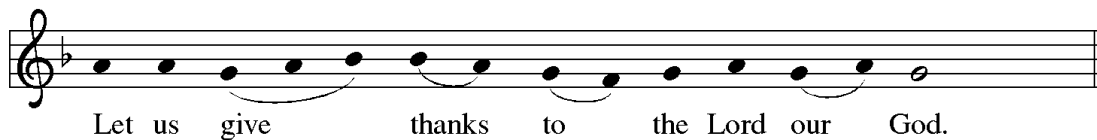
Let us pray.

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

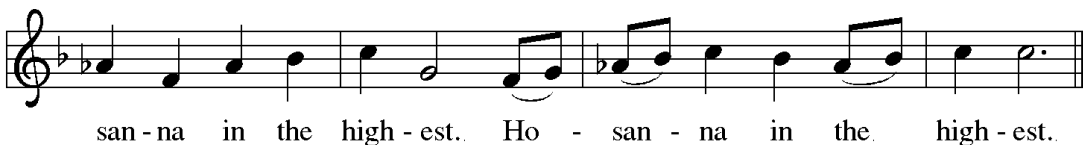
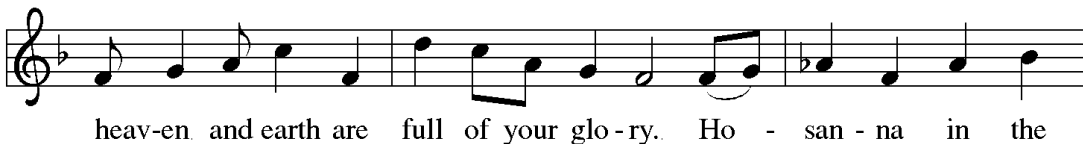
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister unveils the paten and chalice and prepares for the communion.



The presiding minister continues with the Proper Preface for the day, ending "we praise your name and join their unending hymn:"



Blessed are you, O God of the universe...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:...Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us...burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times...blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

COMMUNION

Break the bread.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Come and receive the bread of heaven.

The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

We invite you to come forward to stand on the floor at the predella step. The communion ministers will move around the predella step counterclockwise communing you in turn. The person seated closest to the ambo comes to the first place by the ambo, and those behind and to their right follow in turn by taking the next open position, filling the predella step around the table. We progress from that seat section counterclockwise through each seat section in turn to the choir, who communes last. When you have communed, return to your seat, and the next person can take that position. Remain seated to sing the hymns while you wait your turn.

Take an empty glass from the tray to be filled with wine from the pouring chalice. Prefilled glasses of juice are available for those who cannot or prefer not to receive wine.

We invite all Baptized Christians and those who commune in their own churches to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children and those not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please inform an usher or neighbor of your desire to commune so they can inform the communion ministers, and they will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say,
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.*

The bread is broken for the communion and the assembly is seated. Online worshipers receive the word The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

During the distribution, Lamb of God and additional hymns are sung:

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

HYMN #484 (vs. 1,3) *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*
#764 (vs. 1,4) *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

When all have communed and the ministers have communed, the table is re-dressed and the assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our risen redeemer.

Amen.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER SENDING PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN # 385 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!* John Leavitt

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SERVING AS WORSHIP LEADERS

Greeter: Brad & Ruth Ide

Acolyte: Nick Pyett

Assisting Minister: Gail Smallwood

Lector: Keith Brosious

Saturday Altar Set Up: Cookie Fetterman

Sunday Altar: Carol Fett

Communion Bread: Martha Kush

Minister of Technology: Marissa Miller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God, in honor of the birthday of Jackson Cyphers by his family. **BULLETINS** are given to the Glory of God, in memory of Leeann by her mother, Martha Kush.

THE YELLOW ROSE is given in honor of the 55th wedding anniversary of Susan and Gerald Siperko, by the Social Ministry Committee.

THANK YOU to C. Paul Wheeler, for his time and talents filling in for our organist Margaret today while she is out of town. Paul has served as the principal organist at Prince of Peace Episcopal Church in Dallas, and has performed at St. Stephen's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral, as well as at other Lutheran and Episcopal churches in the area and around the country. He also has served as a recitalist for Galanti Organ Builders.

CLOTHING NEED – We have been asked to assist a client at Pyramid Health Care who is in desperate need of women's clothes – size 2X. If you have any items you could donate, please bring them to the church office or call Karen Mertz at 570.255.4065.

DO YOU KNOW that St. Paul's sponsors an Alzheimer's Support Group? This caring and compassionate support group meets the first Thursday of every month at 10:00 am, in the Narthex (next meeting will be held in the choir room due to the rummage sale). The meeting is free of charge and is open to anyone caring for a loved one.

HELPERS NEEDED - It's FLEECE BLANKET making time! Please join the Social Ministry Committee in the social hall to make fleece blankets for the children attending Grief Camp at Hillside Farm this summer. No special skills are needed. We will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays on the following dates: April 22, 24 and May 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22. If you have any questions, please contact Marianne Mancke at 570.675.0858.

CPR & AED TRAINING CLASS – St. Paul's Health Ministry Committee has scheduled training for use of our AED equipment and how to perform CPR for Wednesday, May 8 at 7:00 pm. Training will be taught by Jack Laskey and is free; however, there is a \$10.00 charge for the CPR card. Please consider attending this life saving training. The training is open to all members of St. Paul's, so please share with family and friends. If you have questions, you may contact Gail Ide at gdirnnpn@epix.net.

ST. PAUL'S BROTHERHOOD will meet on Monday, April 22 at 7:00 pm to discuss preparations for the May 18 Roast Beef Dinner. All men of the congregation are invited to attend,

ECLIPSE GLASSES NEEDED – Our companion Synod in Argentina will be experiencing a solar eclipse in October and is in need of glasses. If you have a pair of glasses, please bring them to church and place them in the basket in the hallway between the Narthex and Social Hall. Thank you!

SUBMISSIONS FOR the weekly bulletins are due in the church office by Noon on Thursdays; the deadline for the May newsletter is today.

RUMMAGE SALE: The Dorcas Society will sponsor the spring two-day rummage/bake sale, to be held Friday, May 3, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m.; and Saturday, May 4, 8:00 a.m.-12 noon (Bag Day all day). Donations of good clean, usable clothes, household items, dishes, pots and pans, holiday decorations, jewelry, books, games, puzzles, etc., are happily accepted. The church building will be open on the following days/times for donation drop-off:

Monday, April 29	9:30 am-5:00 pm
Tuesday, April 30	9:30 am-7:00 pm
Wednesday, May 1	9:30 am-5:00 pm
Thursday, May 2	9:30 am-2:00 pm;

(Donations not accepted after 2:00 pm so Dorcas members will have time to price items). Anyone (men and women) can assist during the week with setting up tables, unloading, displaying and/or pricing items to be sold. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING televisions, computers/printers, exercise equipment, large appliances, encyclopedias, cribs, strollers, artificial Christmas trees, VHS tapes, electrical cords, and old telephones.** All bakers of St. Paul's are asked to donate homemade baked goods for the Bake Sale; the items should be brought to the church by 1:00 pm on Thursday, May 2 so they may be packaged and priced.

ADULT RETREAT – The Adult Forum would like to sponsor a retreat for all adults at Bear Creek Camp, Friday through Saturday, September 27 & 28. At this time, we need to determine your interest in participating in this exciting event. The retreat would begin at dinner time on Friday and run through dinner on Saturday evening. Cabins with bathrooms/showers are available for those wishing to spend the night. Another option would be to arrive at camp early on Saturday morning in time for breakfast and just spend the day through dinner. We need a minimum of 20 overnight campers in order to make this happen. The approximate cost for the overnight package (4 meals included) would be roughly \$90 per person; those attending for the day (3 meals) would cost roughly \$50 per person. Please indicate your interest in participating by signing up on the sheet in the Narthex and/or attending this Sunday's Adult Forum which runs from 10:45 – 11:45 am in the Christian Education wing (first classroom on left). Activities, events, and topics of interest are still being planned; please feel free to offer your input. Complete event details will be announced at a future date provided that there is sufficient interest on the part of the adult members of the congregation to participate in the retreat.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Today: 8:30 am Chime Practice
 9:30 am Worship
 10:45 am Sunday School/Confirmation
 5:00 pm Cub Scouts
 6:30 pm Boy Scouts

Monday: 10:00-11:30 am Fleece Blanket Project
 6:30 pm Back Mountain Railroad Club meeting
 7:00 pm Brotherhood meeting

Tuesday: 10:30 am Bible study

Wednesday: 10:00-11:30 am Fleece Blanket Project

Thursday: 7:00 pm Choir Practice

Saturday: 10:00 am-3:00 pm Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Mission District Assembly
 5:30 pm Worship

Next Sunday: 8:30 am Chime Practice
 9:30 am Worship
 10:45 am Sunday School
 5:00 pm Cub Scouts
 6:30 am Boy Scouts

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. **Pray for the Congregations of St. John, Nanticoke and St. Mark, Pond Hill.**

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Linda Ash, Hope Beisel, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Bowman, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Marge Fritzingler, Lois Hardisky, Robert Kline, Marge McCarty, Rachele Pryor, Ann Sabol, Bill Smith, Justin Yost.

Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Zoey Alson, Dick Armbrust, Hank Banaszek, Len, Lori and Beth Bantel, Gwen Bartolecci, Robert Binger, Marlene Blannett, Kathy Boston, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Courtney Crout, Paul Davis, Paul Davis, Jr., Janice DeFebo, Don Dickson, Gene Eyerman, Jeff Farley, Candyce Fike, Teresa Flanagan, Jim Forker, Nora Gates, Sally Harris, George Hrubowchak, Christine Ide, Paul Ide, Mary Ann Johnson, Mimi Johnson, Michael Kaminski, Bradley Kessler, Audrey Mace, Carol Marker, Ernie McCarty, Carlton McGrady, Dwight McKee, Rob Merritt, Sue Meyer, Baby Miles, Carole (Eneboe) Moretti, Andrea Nielsen, Tim Nulton, Robert Olson, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Febe Quintanar, Donna Reistetter, Judy Roeder, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Edward Sabol, Judi Shaver, Alan Shepherd, Nancy Shymanski, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Jim Thomas, Arnold & Jean Thompson, Tabitha Walters, Karen Wise, Frank Wright, Peg Wyda, Alice, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Cindy, Paul, Kim, Josh, Karen, Bruce, Todd, Mike, Patty N., Mary Z., Chloe, and Paul (no last names given).