

# *Fourth Sunday after Easter*

## *Sunday, May 3, 2020*

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**215 N. Warren St.**  
**Orwigsburg, PA**  
**570-366-2316**  
**[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)**

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### **GATHERING**

*As we gather together, let us refrain from talking and quiet ourselves.*

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Drawn by our joy in the Risen Lord, we gather as God's children in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.

Let us confess our sins.

*Silence*

**Almighty God, we cannot free ourselves from our desire to sin. We cannot keep sin out of every part of our life. We suffer because we sin. Those around us suffer because of what we do and what we fail to do. For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, have mercy on us. Cleanse us from our sins. Give us new hearts and minds. And raise us to new and abundant life, so that we never tire of serving in your holy name.**

**Amen.**

By the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, know that your sins are forgiven and that you have the promise of eternal life.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

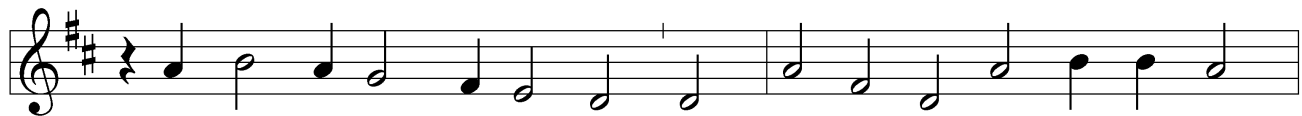
**And also with you.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*He Is Arisen, Glorious Word*



He is a - ris - en! Glo-rious Word! Now rec-on-ciled is God, my Lord;



the gates of heav'n are o - pen. My Je - sus rose tri - um-phant-ly,



and Sa-tan's ar-rows bro-ken lie, de-stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.



Oh, hear, what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, ris - ing



glo-rious, life is giv - ing. He was dead, but now is liv - ing!

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# WORD

## **A Reading from Acts**

<sup>42</sup>[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. (Acts 2:42-47)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 23 KJV (Responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul:

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

## **A Reading from First Peter**

<sup>19</sup>It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval.

<sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin,  
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.  
(1 Peter 2:19-25)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*

*Refrain*

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!

Sing his prais-es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

**Praise to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

<sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

<sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”  
(John 10:1-10)

The Gospel of the Lord.     **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

### **SERMON**

#### **THE NICENE CREED (In Unison)**

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;  
    by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
    and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Shepherding God, we thank you for the educational ministries of your church. Enrich the work of teachers, professors, mentors, advisors, and faculty at colleges, seminaries, and learning sites. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Creating God, we praise you for those who maintain and operate farm equipment, for those who plant and harvest crops, for local farmers' markets, and for those involved in agriculture of any kind. Strengthen their hands as they feed the world.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Guiding God, it is your will that no one should be in want. Inspire world leaders and all nations to walk in your ways, so that all may have the opportunity to live abundantly and sustainably. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, you carry us tenderly. We pray for those in the front line to fight COVID – 19 who daily walk through dark valleys overshadowed by anxiety and dread. Strengthen them in faith and keep them safe from harm. We also pray for all who suffer from this terrible virus and for all who suffer in any way (*especially...*).

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Nurturing God, you desire justice for the hungry. Bless advocacy work, food pantries, and feeding ministries in our congregations. May none of our neighbors lack for basic needs. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Everlasting God, you call your children by name and when their life on earth is done, you gently welcome them into your midst. We thank you for their lives of faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

## OFFERING

### ORGAN OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY HYMN

“At the Lamb’s High Feast”



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing praise to  
2 Praise we Christ, whose love di - vine gives his



our vic - to - rious king, who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, gives his bod - y for the feast—



flow - ing from his wound - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, our gifts so seem small for such a great celebration, but you make of them an abundance, just as you do with our little lives. Feed us again at this table that we might go forth to serve in your name, in the strength of the risen Christ.

**Amen.**

# MEAL

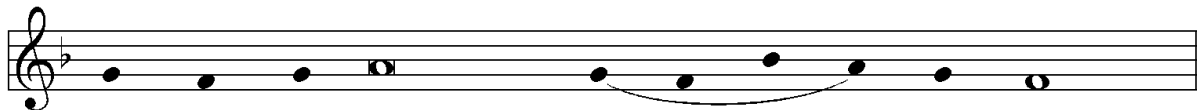
## GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



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



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Risen Christ. Let us come to his banquet.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The Sacrament will be distributed by Intinction, pulpit side first. Please move into the center aisle, proceed to the Pastor, and receive the bread in your open hand. Then turn to the assistant, where you may dip the host into the wine and partake, returning to your seat by the side aisle. The lectern side will follow, then the choir. Those unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament in their pews. Those who do not desire to receive the Sacrament may come forward to receive a blessing.*

## AGNUS DEI

♪ 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.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Life-giving God, you have fed us with your word, and opened us to your presence. Now send us forth to share the gifts of Easter with all in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

Christ is risen, just as he said. Now go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### **POSTLUDE**

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## ONLINE GIVING

The mission and ministry of St. Paul's continues amid the coronavirus pandemic. You can still support St. Paul's by sending your offerings to the church by check through the US Mail -- OR give to St. Paul's securely online. Here's how:

- Go to our website: [www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)
- From the home page, click the Online Giving tab at the top of the screen.
- A Give Now box will appear on your screen.
- Select General Fund from the menu.
- Keep One Time selected (or create a secure account to set up reoccurring payments)
- Enter the dollar amount you'd like to give with NO decimals.
- Click Add Donation.
- Click Next then enter your Name, Address, and Credit/Debit Card information.

*Optional items:*

*To receive an emailed receipt, check the box and enter your email address.*

*To help offset the online processing fees, check the box.*

- Click donate now to complete your transaction. You will receive a confirmation number.

Thank you for your continuing generosity!

## ONLINE WORSHIP VIDEOS

Although we are unable to gather for our regular worship, we can still watch pre-recorded worship videos in our home. These videos will be available by Saturday morning each week.

Before you watch, make sure the volume on your device (computer, smart phone, or tablet) is turned up for the best audio experience.

To access an online worship video:

- Go to our website: [www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)
- From the Sermons, Bulletins & Newsletters tab, click on Sermons & Weekly Bulletins.
- The most current video available will be at the top of the list.
- Click View to watch the pre-recorded video.
- You can also go to YouTube directly and search for "St. Paul's Lutheran Church Orwigsburg, PA."