

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 21, 2024

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316
www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" L. Larson

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Drawn by our joy in the Risen Lord, we gather in the name of the Father, and of the
✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

As St. Paul writes: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore, we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. (Romans 6:3-5)

Let us confess our sins.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

Almighty God,

**we cannot free ourselves from our desire to sin
and we cannot keep sin out of every part of our lives.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Cleanse us from our sins. Give us new hearts and minds.

And raise us to new and abundant life. Amen.

Know that your sins are forgiven and that you have the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
[See back of bulletin]

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er. *Refrain*



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, and we will serve you with joy for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM ACTS

⁵The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let 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. ¹¹This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

(Acts 4:5-12)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23 KJV (Read responsively)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

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

³He restoreth my soul:

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

**⁴Yea, 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.**

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

**⁶Surely 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 JOHN

¹⁶We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How 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?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before

him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And 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. ²⁴All 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. (1 John 3:16-24)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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!

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The 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. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No 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.”

(John 10:11-18)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “Shepherd of Souls”
[See back of bulletin]

NICENE CREED (Read 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

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

Loving Shepherd, your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your unconditional and expansive love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Shepherd, bring healing to all that is broken in your creation and restore it to wholeness. Help us to rejoice in all that you have made good and teach us to be good stewards. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Hope-giving Shepherd, place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to lovingly serve others. Crucify our desire to control others and use joy in lifting the lowly. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding Shepherd, move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need. Help us to be strong and courageous with your truth that we may demonstrate your love in word and deed. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Saving Shepherd, give us vigor and make us bold as a people of faith. Amid challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with abundant life and pour upon your church the power of your Holy Spirit. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Shepherd, grant healing and wholeness to those who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit. We especially pray for the people of war-torn nations, and especially for everyone on our prayer list. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Shepherd, in the assurance of the resurrection hope, we remember our loved ones who now rest in you. As you will, bring us with them to dwell in your house forever. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): 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 peace of the risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:00 AM)

"Pastorale"

R. Lau

ANTHEM (10:30 AM)

"The Lord Will Be My Shepherd"

Besig/Price

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 seem so 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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

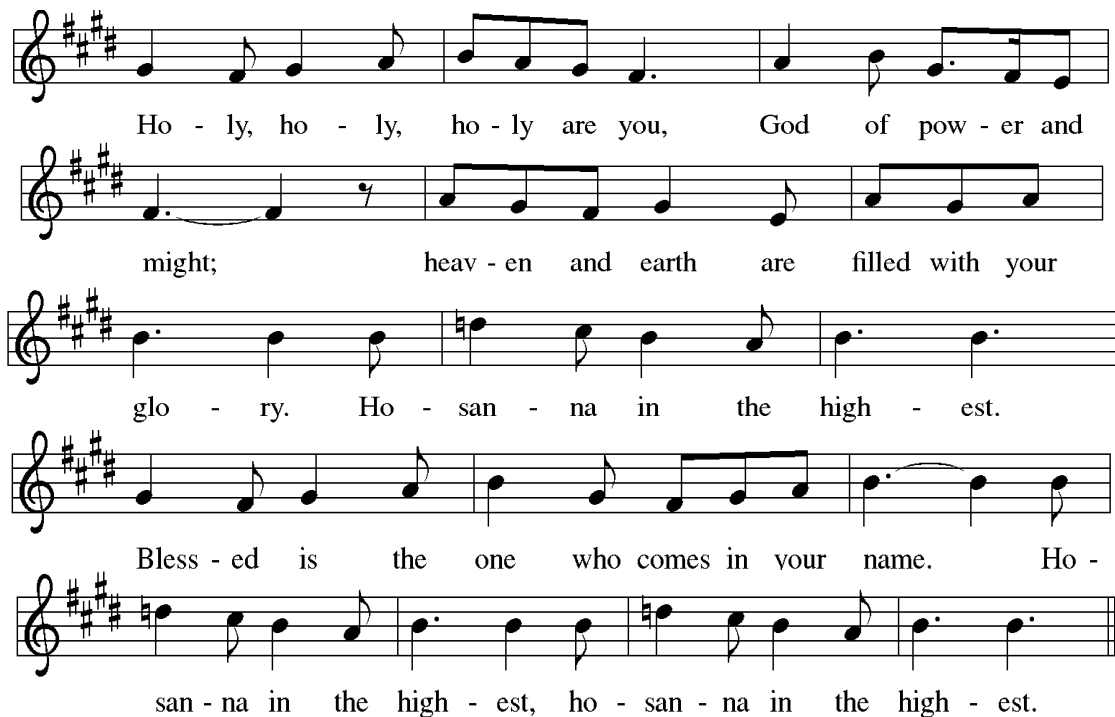
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should in 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

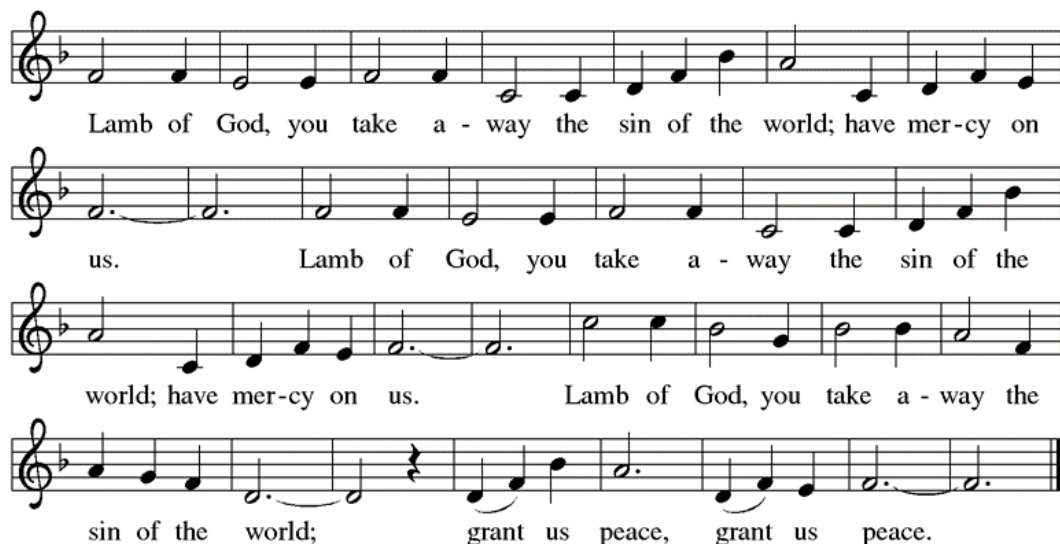
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.
When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread,
as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

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, grant us peace.

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. After you have received the Sacrament, you may choose to briefly stand at the chancel rail before returning to your seat.

If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew.

Communion is shared with those seated on the pulpit side and then with those seated on the lectern side.

COMMUNION HYMN "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"
[See back of bulletin]

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 God the Father who raised Christ from the dead, open to you the gate of everlasting life. May God the Son who burst forth from the grave, give you joy as you celebrate his resurrection. May God the Holy Spirit who brought to you new life in baptism, build up your faith and grant you peace. And may our Triune God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"
[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said. Go now in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE "Triumphant March" G. F. Handel

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Introduction to the day: 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.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our April newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube. And get to know us better! We are a Lutheran congregation with a rich tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship and work together here -- to the glory of God!

PRE-ORDER SAUSAGE SANDWICHES

On Saturday, April 27, the Men of St. Paul's will hold a "Sausage Sandwiches on the Square" beginning at 11 a.m. Tasty sausage sandwiches will be priced at \$7 each (or three for \$20). They come with or without sauce and "the works." Please see Doug Travor or any of the Men of St. Paul's for details.

WHERE ARE OUR OFFERING PLATES?

Except for special Sundays, our offering plate is in the back of the church near the center aisle. If you would like to give an offering and have not already done so, please place your offering in the plate before worship begins or as you leave the church.

"SECOND SUNDAY" SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our final Second Sunday School class prior to our summer break will take place on Sunday, May 12. Children ages 1-10 are welcome to come upstairs during the 10:30 a.m. service and students ages 11 to 18 are invited to take part from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. with our Teen group.

Please contact Sarah Eger with questions or to volunteer at (570) 394-3522 or via email at swoodring86@hotmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 21	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Wednesday, April 24	6:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir
Saturday, April 27	11:00 AM	Sausage Sandwich Sale on the Square
	5:30 PM	Worship
Sunday, April 28		BRING-A-FRIEND SUNDAY
	8:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	9:15 AM	Adult Forum
	10:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
		Refreshments following the late service

SERVING TODAY (4/21/24)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Evan Davis; USHER: David Kriner

LECTOR: Wendy Schuld; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Bill Smoot

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (4/28/24)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike

LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

10:30 AM

GREETER: Sarah Eger; USHER: Karen Travor; LECTOR: Hope Clarke

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Sue Reier

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Barb Sterner, and Glenda Bright

PLEASE RECYCLE!

We remind everyone to “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle” for a cleaner community and a healthier planet.

GATHERING HYMN “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;

In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef staff for each system. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff of each system. The hymn consists of four systems of music and lyrics. The first system includes four numbered verses. The second system contains two lines of lyrics. The third and fourth systems each contain four lines of lyrics. The score concludes with a final double bar line and a common time signature (C) in the bass staff.

“BRING A FRIEND” SUNDAY

On April 28, we will celebrate “Bring a Friend” Sunday. Please plan to invite a friend to worship with us at St. Paul’s and remain after the 10:30 a.m. service for some fellowship and refreshments.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Shepherd of Souls”

1. Shep - herd of souls, re - fresh and bless
2. We would not live by bread a - lone,
3. Be known to us in break - ing bread,
4. Lord, sup with us in love di - vine;

Your cho - sen pil - grim flock With man - na in the
But by Your word of grace, In strength of which we
But do not then de - part; Sav - ior, a - bide with
Your Bod - y and Your Blood, That liv - ing bread, that

wil - der - ness, With wa - ter from the rock.
trav - el on To our a - bid - ing place.
us, and spread Your ta - ble in our heart.
heav'n - ly wine, Be our im - mor - tal food.

LET'S KEEP IT UP!

Please sign cards for members who cannot worship with us in person (e.g., those who have long-term health problems, military personnel, and college students far from home.) These cards are in the back of our sanctuary on the small table with our prayer list. They are signs of our continued encouragement and support.

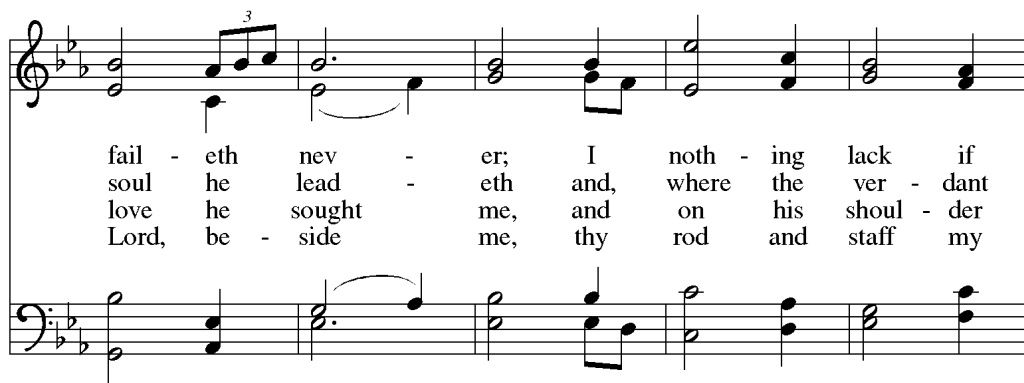
PLEASE FILL OUT A COMMUNION CARD

Members should confirm that they have received the Sacrament at least once during each calendar year. If you have not completed a Communion card this year, please fill one out and drop it in the offering plate before you leave the church today.

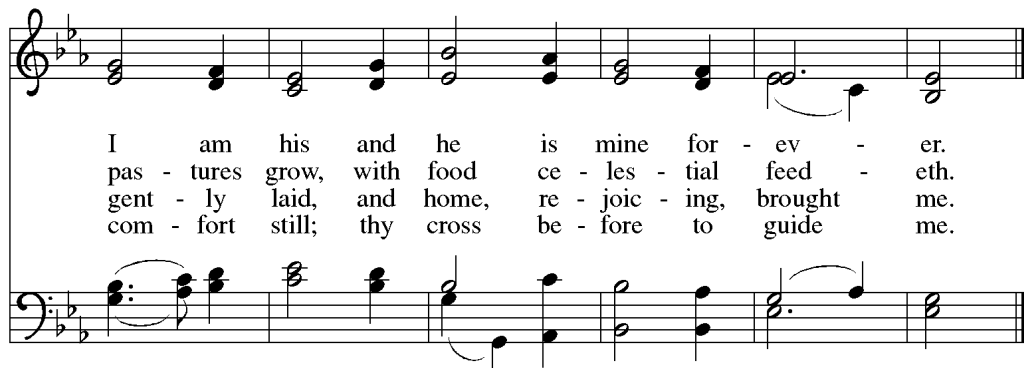
COMMUNION HYMN “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

HE IS THE SAME

“He who is the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep, who knows His sheep and calls them by name, He is the same who feeds them and leads them to green pastures. He is the same who seeks out the lost sheep and rejoices when it is found. He is the same who binds up the wounded and carries the weak. He is the same who guards the flock against wolves and thieves. He is the same who will one day gather all His sheep into His eternal fold.” John Chrysostom (c. 349–407 AD)

SENDING HYMN “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph
 2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is
 3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which
 4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with

of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
 rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joice and say:
 can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
 one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST

We plan to decorate the church with potted red geraniums on Pentecost, which is Sunday, May 19. The deadline to place an order is Friday, May 10 and the cost of each geranium pot is \$4.00.

OUR PASTOR AND STAFF

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	No Email
Karen Travor, Treasurer	610-507-2797	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GERANIUM ORDER SHEET

We plan to decorate the church with red geraniums on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. The deadline to place an order is Friday, May 10 and the cost of each geranium pot is \$4.00. Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Please place your order and payment in the basket on the table under the bulletin board in the Gathering Room. Envelopes are available for your use.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Contact Number _____

If you wish to dedicate your flowers, please fill out the information below:

In honor of:

In memory of:

Please check this box if you wish to donate the flowers to the church and not take them home.

Total # of Geraniums: _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____