

**“I am the good shepherd;  
I know my sheep and my sheep know me.”**

**John 10:14, NIV**

## **YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!**

May this hour be a journey of the heart, a renewal of spirit, a pause in our lives as we worship the Lord our God together. If you are a guest this morning, we extend a special welcome to you and invite you to sign our guest book located in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary, also known as the narthex. Following our worship service, we invite you to share in a time of fellowship over coffee, juice, and snacks in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in learning more about our congregation and becoming a member, please visit with any member of the congregation or Pastor Janis Sloka. Thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us at St. Paul Lutheran Church!

## **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!**

We feel strongly that the faith formation of youth—just as any adult’s—develops through experience; because of this, we welcome youth of all ages to participate fully in worship and invite them to serve in a number of roles, such as: ushers, greeters, readers, and musicians. While we expect that children will behave as children—giggles, wiggles, and all—we also understand that sometimes they (and their parents or guardians) need a break; on those occasions, you are welcome to utilize the nursery (unstaffed) located on the north end of the narthex. Additionally, there is a playroom for children and a couch room for older youth on the west end of the Fellowship Hall. You can also find children’s bulletins and crayons on the table as you enter the main church building doors.

## **ABOUT OUR WORSHIP**

As Lutherans, worship is connected with and central to everything we do—uniting us in celebration, engaging us in thoughtful dialogue, and helping us grow in faith. At the heart of our worship life is the presence of God through the word proclaimed and the sacraments—Holy Baptism and Holy Communion; this is because worship is—first and foremost—fundamentally about what God is doing in the world and in our lives, and then our response to God’s action. In the context of worship, we find our response in the liturgy, which is a way of living God’s story. The liturgical texts that form the prayers we pray, the texts we say, and the songs we sing find their roots in the Bible; for more information see the back of the hymnal, ELW pp. 1154-1159. Furthermore, these liturgical texts invite each and every one of us—not just the pastor or choir or any other worship leader—to use our voices to praise God. Through worship we are shaped to be participants in God’s life in this world.

## **PLEASE ASK AN USHER/GREETER FOR...**

• Assistance with wheelchair seating • Assisted listening devices • Large print bulletins • Directions to restrooms •

# ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

*+Indicates to rise as you are able.*

*Congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

*Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.*

## **WELCOME**

### **+CALL TO WORSHIP**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

We run to the tomb to see for ourselves, and it is true... Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

Our Lord is with us now and always, for Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### **+ SONG**

*“Morning Has Broken” ELW #556*

### **+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.**

*You may be seated.*

## **FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47**

*Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.*

<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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 23**

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. (Ps. 23:1)*

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

<sup>2</sup>**He makes me lie down in green  
pastures; he leads me beside still  
waters;**

<sup>3</sup>**he restores my soul. He leads me in  
right paths for his name's sake.**

<sup>4</sup>**Even though I walk through the  
darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you  
are with me; your rod and your staff  
—they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>**You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.**

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall  
follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the  
LORD my whole life long.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.*

<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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

***“Only by the Blood of the Lamb”***

Only by the blood of the Lamb,

Only by the blood of the Lamb;

We've overcome, in His grace we now stand,

Only by the blood of the Lamb.

Repeat

## **+GOSPEL: John 10:1-10**

**Children's Bible page #436**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.*

[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.”

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

**SONG**                    *“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” ELW #733*

**+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** –    Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

### **+PEACE**

*The sharing of the peace is one of the oldest traditions in the Christian church. Far more than a sociable handshake, it is a ministry we do for each other that proclaims the promise of God's peace given to us and reconciles us to God and one another.*

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## OFFERING

*Every good and perfect gift is from God. In grateful response to all of God's gifts, we offer our time, talents, and treasures. These offerings support the ministry of the church-bearing witness to the love of Christ in our community, country, and world. Your financial offerings may be placed in the plates by the sanctuary doors. You are also invited to visit [www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving](http://www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving) to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul Lutheran!*

## +OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

## +OUR MISSION

*Our mission statement reminds us of our collective calling as St. Paul Lutheran Church in light of the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

What is the mission we share together?

**Our mission is to GATHER as God's people; to GROW in faith, love, and service; and to GO into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.**

## +BLESSING

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

## +SENDING SONG

*“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!” ELW #377*

## +DISMISSAL

Go in peace, to love and serve the Risen One. **Thanks be to God.**

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## EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Today

- May Calendar: is on the table in the church entry.

### Outreach

- **St. Paul at Camp of the Cross Spring Clean Up Day is today!** Can you help out with CCM? We will be meeting in the church parking lot at 12Noon. Lunch is provided at 12:30. Please see Pastor Sloka or Holly for questions or to sign up!
- **Camp of the Cross:** The Camp is having a **“Chair”ing is Caring!** fundraiser to buy new chairs for the fellowship hall. See the new chair, in the gathering space, that they are planning to purchase. Each chair is \$25. There are Camp envelopes for the donations on a table in the church entry.
- **Freewill Brunch Fundraiser:** for the McLean County Wrestling Club. May 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Garrison Auditorium. Serving pancakes and eggs with ham.
- **Baccalaureate:** The community will celebrate all our Garrison Graduates here at St. Paul on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. Fellowship will follow the service.
- **Equal Exchange:** a variety of coffee and chocolate are for sale, at cost, on a cart in the fellowship hall. This supports the small coffee farmers.

### Volunteer Opportunities

- **Fellowship Hosts:** We need hosts for May.
- **Readers:** are needed for May. A sign-up sheet and a copy of the readings is on a table in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary.
- **Acolytes:** We need hosts for May.
- **Recycle:** we have a box full for recycling if anyone is available. Thanks!

### Upcoming

- **Church Picnic:** Mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6PM for the annual congregational picnic. Food, Games and Fun for all ages!

### General

- **Office Hours:** are from 9a.m.-12 noon Mondays-Tuesdays-Wednesdays
- **Update our Living Wall:** People are encouraged to send updated pictures to the church to put up on the Living Wall. Bring a picture to the office or email your picture to the church, [stpaul@restel.com](mailto:stpaul@restel.com). Faye Seidler will then put them on the wall.



- Directory: We are going to update the church directory. Loree would like everyone's phone numbers and addresses updated by May 15<sup>th</sup>. Please email, text or write a note and leave on Loree's desk. She will be using the information that is listed in Breeze, our church management system.
- Live Facebook: each week at St. Paul's. The 4 Ministers are also on FB and Instagram each week.
- Get your St. Paul Gear! Spread our mission with custom shirts! Check them out in the Fellowship Hall.

*You invited to visit [www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving](http://www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com/giving) to set up a one-time gift or regular, electronic giving.*

*Thank you for being a part of what God is doing at St. Paul!*



## **In Our Prayers...**

Grayson Phillips, Matt Steinmetz, Jason Ouhl, Kristi Devitt, Daniel Devitt, Hayden Ogilvie, Edythe Rustad, Clarence Behles, Glen Blanchard, Darrin Huston, Stuart Bennett, Mike Gackle, Mona Reinisch, Steve Seidler, Travis Kolden, Heidi Smith, Lorinda Johnson, Doug Steinmetz, Jeff Wretling, Randy Mautz, Alton Krebsbach, Terry Metz. Judy Proffitt and family at the death of Dennis, The Iglehart family at the death of Linda, Eleanor Mehlhoff and family at the death of her great grandson.

## **Birthday Wishes This Week To:**

Heidi Smith	April 30
Matthew Zimney	April 30
Meghan Wyman	May 01
Jordan Kellar	May 02
Agnes Lindsey	May 02
Daniel Splichal	May 02
Holly Klemisch	May 03



**COKEBURY'S**  
**HERO**  
**HOTLINE**  
 Called Together  
 to Serve God!

**WHEN: MON, MAY 22ND - THUR, MAY 25TH**

**WHERE: ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH GARRISON, ND**

**WHO: ANY CHILD KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADE**

**PROGRAM IS OFFERED AS FREE-WILL DONATION**

**PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 8TH**

## THIS WEEK <sup>at</sup> GLANCE



*Today, April 30th*

9:45 a.m.	Worship
10:45 a.m.	Fellowship
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	9-12 LOL meet-up
11:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
12:00 p.m.	Church and Youth CCM clean-up day

<i>Mon.</i>	9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
	6:00 p.m.	MOPS/MOMSnext

<i>Tues.</i>	9:00 a.m. – 12 Noon	Office Hours
	10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study

<i>Wed.</i>	7:30 a.m.	Youth Breakfast 9-12 <sup>th</sup>
	9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
	9:30 a.m.	Women's Circle
	3:00 p.m.	K-6 <sup>th</sup> gr. Sunshine Friends Party
	6:00 p.m.	7 <sup>th</sup> Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	8 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> Confirmation

<i>Thurs.</i>	10:00 a.m.	Community Bible Study at The Meadows
	10:00 a.m.	Western Prairie Conference Meeting

<i>Fri.</i>	4:00 p.m.	Crafting
<i>Sat.</i>	9:00 a.m.	Crafting
<i>Next Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup></i>		
	9:00 a.m.	Choir Practice
	9:45 a.m.	Worship with Holy Communion/Choir
	10:45 a.m.	Fellowship
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		6-8 gr. LOL
	11:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
	3-5 p.m.	Candela's Open House at the Parsonage

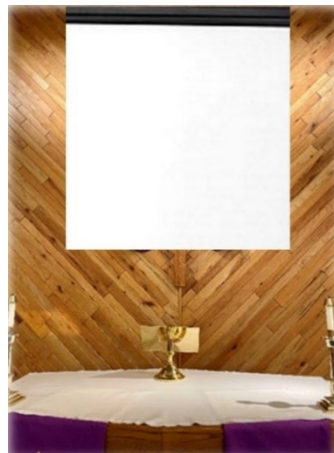
**PERMANENT PROJECTOR  
AND RETRACTABLE SCREEN IN THE SANCTUARY**

The Church Council after many years of discussion made the decision to put in the sanctuary a permanent projector and retractable projection screen. They believe it will enhance our worship experience and be helpful for children and youth ministries. After receiving a bid, they would like to move forward with your support. However, they will not install them until the monies are raised. So, we need your help! The cost is \$20,000 for the equipment, installation, and the work of an electrician.

**We have raised \$7,590 so far. Can you help us meet our goal?**

Please prayerfully consider helping make this possible! Please see a council member if you have questions.

*Retractable not permanent*



# ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH + ELCA

P.O. Box 726 – Garrison, ND 58540

stpaul@restel.com

Church Office: 701-463-2019

Sunday Worship – 9:45 a.m.

www.stpaulgarrisonnd.com

pastorsloka@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell: 701-861-9915

Sunday School – 11:00 a.m.

## SERVING IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF OUR CHURCH

<i>Ministers</i>	The People of St. Paul Lutheran
<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Janis Sloka, III
<i>Faith Formation Director</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Church Council President</i>	Keith Thelen
<i>Treasurer</i>	Holly Klemisch
<i>Financial &amp; Church Secretary</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Custodian</i>	Pam Kolden
<i>Sunday School Coordinator</i>	Lisa Maki
<i>Missionaries</i>	Anne & Willie Langdji; Katie Narum Miyamoto
<i>Sweet Sounds Coordinator</i>	Loree Jeffers
<i>Choir Director</i>	Lisa Haugen
<i>Organist</i>	Sundi Lagge
<i>Reader</i>	Lu Graeber
<i>Ushers</i>	Dan & Joleen Splichal
<i>Greeters</i>	Andy & Cindy Iglehart Family
<i>Acolyte</i>	Hudson Klemisch
<i>Door Attendant</i>	Vickie Frothinger
<i>Fellowship Hosts</i>	Self-Serve
<i>Technology</i>	Mark Torno

## MISSION STATEMENT

As we share the gospel of Jesus Christ, our mission is to **GATHER** as God's people; to **GROW** in faith, love and service; and to **GO** into the community and world as disciples of Jesus.