

“Blessed
are those who
have not seen
and yet have
come to
BELIEVE.”

John 20:29, NRSV

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 FOR...

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

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2nd Sunday of Easter
April 16, 2023- Holy Humor Sunday
Sweet Sounds

+*Indicates to rise as you are able.*
*Congregational responses are printed in **bold**.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.

WELCOME *Holy Humor Sunday*

+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 *“He Is Exalted”*

Verse

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

I will praise Him

He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!

Chorus

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign

Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

Verse Chorus Chorus

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

You may be seated

SONG

“In Christ Alone”

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm though the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
Til on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, 7so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, 9for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

PSALM: Psalm 16 *Please read responsively by whole verses.*

¹Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

²**I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD;
I have no good apart from you."**

³As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.

⁴**Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**

⁵The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.

⁶**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸**I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

⁹Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

¹⁰**For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

¹¹You show me the path of life.

In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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 20:19-31

Children’s Bible page # 492

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God the father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery in Egypt into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Hayes Mack, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your sons and daughters new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Hayes Mack with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **People: Amen.**

Pastor: Hayes Mack, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever in this baptism!

Pastor: Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven!

Pastor: Let us welcome this child into God's family by singing one verse of "Jesus Loves Me", twice.

All: Jesus loves me this I know For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong. They are weak but he is strong. Yes! Jesus loves me. Yes! Jesus loves me. Yes! Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so. (twice)

+PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION –

Sing the song at the beginning, middle and end of the prayers, as directed by the leader.

"Be Still for the Presence"

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come, bow before Him now, with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Prayers... "Hear us, O God." We sing

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendor He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Prayers... "Hear us, O God." We sing

3. Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him,
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

+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 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!

SPECIAL MUSIC By Sweet Sounds “Resurrection Hymn”

+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.	as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,	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! Christ Is Arisen” ELW 375

+DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One. **Thanks be to God.**

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EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **We welcome into our family today through Holy Baptism Hayes Mack Steele.**
Child of Nicole and Klint Steele.
- **Camp of the Cross Spring Clean Up Day!** Can you help out CCM? They are having a work day on Sunday, April 30th from 12Noon-5PM. Lunch provided. Please see Pastor Sloka or Holly for questions or to sign up!
- **Office Hours:** are from 9a.m.-12 noon Mondays-Tuesdays-Wednesdays
- **May Calendar:** items due tomorrow, April 17.
- **Fellowship Hosts:** We need hosts for April.
- **Recycle:** we have a box full for recycling if anyone is available. Thanks!
- **Readers:** are needed for April. A sign-up sheet and a copy of the readings is on a table in the gathering space outside of the sanctuary.
- **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. 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 before she runs the new directory. 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.
- **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.
- **Live Facebook:** each week at St. Paul's. The 4 Ministers are also on FB and Instagram each week.
- **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.
- **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 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...

Brayden Ogilvie, Edythe Rustad, Clarence Behles, Glen Blanchard, Darrin Huston, Stuart Bennett, Mike Gackle, Mona Reinisch, Claryce Johnson, Steve Seidler, Travis Kolden, Heidi Smith, Lorinda Johnson, Doug Steinmetz, Jeff Wretling, Randy Mautz, Alton Krebsbach, Terry Metz. Judy Proffit and family at the death of Dennis.

Birthday Wishes This Week To:

Melanie Haugen Zimney	April 16
Glenn Seidler	April 16
Kimberly Kolden	April 17
Shane Smith	April 17
Wanyce Arndt	April 18
Sawyer Diffley	April 18
Alyssah Torno	April 19
Susan Bayer	April 22
Robin Schenfisch	April 22



THIS WEEK ^{at} GLANCE



Today, April 16th

9:45 a.m.	Worship- Sweet Sounds
10:45 a.m.	May Action Group meets Fellowship
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School 6-8 LOL meet up
11:15 a.m.	Choir Practice
3:30- 4:30 p.m.	K-2 nd Mock Lock-in
4:30-6:00 p.m.	3-6 th Mock Lock-in
6:00 p.m.	Youth Group

Mon. April 17 **Items for May Calendar due**

<i>Mon.</i> 9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
9:00 a.m.	Quilting
<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 th
9:00 a.m. -12 Noon	Office Hours
9:30 a.m.	Women's Circle
3:00 p.m.	K-2nd gr. Sonshine Friends
6:00 p.m.	7 th Confirmation
7:00 p.m.	8-9 th Confirmation
<i>Thurs.</i> 10:00 p.m.	Community Bible Study at The Meadows

Next Sunday, April 23rd

9:45 a.m.	Worship- Holy Communion
10:45 a.m.	Fellowship
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
1:00 & 3:00 p.m.	Stained Glass Classes
6:00 p.m.	Youth Group

Mon. April 24 *Office Closed*



We thank everyone who donated to our
Easter Little Lunches Backpack Program.

IN MEMORY OF:

Shirley Zieman – by Robert Zieman
Loved Ones – by Arley & Linda Heer
Sarah Haugen – by John & Lisa Haugen
Bill Fure; Irene Srb; Harold, Arlin, Wade & Amy Graeber– by Vicki & Wendi Fure
Ken Norenberg & Becky Wyman – by Jan Norenberg
Albert & Etta Mautz & Jim Struwing – by Denise Mautz
Parent’s, Kermit & LaVonne Ulrich; Charlene Hill – by Shannon & Loree Jeffers
Hannah, Morgan & Jeffrey Foss – by Carell & Bonnie Foss
Gerhardt & Marvin Zablottney – by Marv & Vi Zablottney
Rebecca Huston – by Steve & Brenda Huston & Joey & Tamara Huston
Robert William Maki – by The Maki Family
Clifford Rime & Joshua Rime – by Vanona Rime
Edmund Mehlhoff & Bonnie De Haven – Eleanor Mehlhoff

IN HONOR OF:

Our Family, in Jesus’ name – by Robert Zieman
My Children; Grandchildren; & Great Grandchildren – by Mona Reinisch
Wendi Fure – by Vicki Fure
All God’s Little Children – by Stuart & Connie Bennett
Our Grandchildren: Levi, Soren & Kallie – by Randy & Cheryl Naze
Our Children: Kylee, Kara & Kyle – by Shannon & Loree Jeffers
Little Lunches Volunteers – by Richard & Marian Lehnerr
Our Children – by Laura & Janis Sloka, III
My Family and Children – by Holly Klemisch
St. Paul’s Choir – by Marlyn Zimmerman

*\$1185 was raised, and 2 Lilies for the altar were purchased with the remainder going to
Little Lunches Backpack Program in Garrison.*

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 & 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>	Kim Gehring
<i>Reader</i>	Stu Merry
<i>Ushers</i>	Stu & Jan Merry
<i>Greeters</i>	Jim, Danielle & Adley Wilson
<i>Acolyte</i>	Austin Thelen
<i>Door Attendant</i>	Janna Pastir
<i>Fellowship Hosts</i>	The Thelen's
<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.