



***Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who according to  
His abundant mercy has  
begotten us again  
to a living hope through the  
resurrection of Jesus Christ  
from the dead***

*1 Peter 1:3*

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The joy of Christ’s resurrection and the gifts He won for all by it are brought home as certainties in the lessons for this second celebration of Easter. Why are they certain? Because it’s God who has won them! The *Epistle* from Peter’s first letter assures the believer that hope, the gift of eternal life in Christ, is just as “living” for one who is called to glory now as it is for one called years later (1 Pet 1:3–5)—because God established and preserves the gift!

*The Lord’s Supper* is a very special privilege God gives to His people. Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

**OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US.** Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose “e-tithing” by having a weekly deposit to St Paul’s from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

**Children Leaving the Sanctuary:** This is a matter of caring concern for your child, or the young child that you are responsible for, age 13 or younger. The Board of Lay Ministry asks that if your child needs to leave the sanctuary during the worship service, you as a parent or responsible adult will need to escort them to and from the sanctuary. Thank you

**In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”**  
We welcome children and all the joy and little chatter that comes with them. If for any reason you want to take your little one out, there is a Nursery (Cry Room) available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

**Opening Hymn 465** "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(Matthew 28:19b)*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*(Hebrews 10:22)*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.** *(Psalm 124:8)*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *(Psalm 32:5)*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(John 20:19-23)*

**C** **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

**Introit** *Psalm 105:1-5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2-3*

**P** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

**C** **if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

**P** Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;

**C** **make known His deeds among the peoples!**

- P** Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;
- C** **tell of all His wondrous works!**
- P** Glory in His holy name;
- C** **let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**
- P** Seek the LORD and His strength;
- C** **seek His presence continually!**
- P** Remember the wondrous works that He has done,
- C** **His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.**
- P** He remembers His covenant forever,
- C** **the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- P** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—
- C** **if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

**Kyrie** ~ *Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)*

*LSB 186*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**Gloria in Excelsis** ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

*LSB 187*

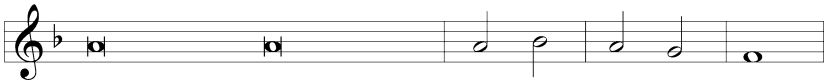
*(Luke 2:24; John 1:29)*



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

*(1 Timothy 4:22)*



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## First Reading

*Acts 5:29–42*

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

<sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. <sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual** *adapted from: Matthew 28:7, Hebrews 2:7, Psalm 8:6*

**P** Christ has risen from the dead.

**C** **God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.**

**P** He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;

**C** **He has put all things under His feet.**

## Epistle

1 Peter 1:3–9

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia

LSB 190




**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."  
<sup>20</sup>When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe."

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn 470** "O Sons and Daughters of the King"



## Sermon Text

1 Peter 1:3-9

### Sermon "The Sure and Living Hope"

1. What do we \_\_\_\_\_ ?
2. Eternal hope is divinely unique from \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. How is living hope \_\_\_\_\_ ,\_received, and \_\_\_\_\_ ?
4. Are you happy about your hope—or are you joyous? Does this joy \_\_\_\_\_ ? Absolutely!

### Hymn 737 "Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing"

## Prayers

### Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

LSB 196

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

### *Installation of Jamie Rogers as a Called Teacher in our Day School*

**P** The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)



**C** And with thy spir - it.

### Benedicamus ~ Let Us Bless (Psalm 103:1)

LSB 202

**P** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn 741 "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense"

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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**A cookie and punch reception for Jamie Rogers** will be held in the Bethany Room following the service. Please come celebrate with Jamie for finishing her colloquy and receiving her call.

**To Christ be all the glory!**

### CHRISTIAN MEN - AWAKE!

If you're at least 18 years of age, wake up on Wednesday morning every other week and join in a Bible Study at the Bremen Hospital cafeteria conference room at 6:30 A.M.. Enter the cafeteria area entrance on the south side patio to the left of the main entrance portico (presently the covid testing drive-thru). The cafeteria has an excellent breakfast menu and we enjoy our study with discussion and fellowship until 7:30 A.M. Bible study is a means of strengthening our understanding of God's plan for us and strengthening our faith, which we all can use in the daily challenges we face. Bring your Bible and join us as we study, eat and fellowship! The dates we will meet in 2023 are as follows: 4/19, 5/3, 5/17, 5/31, 6/14, 6/28, 7/12, 7/26, 8/9, 8/23, 9/6, 9/20, 10/4, 10/18, 11/1, 11/15, 11/29, 12/13, 12/27

*If you have questions, please contact Dave Burcham or Tom Coxey.*

**Scrip orders:** Due to Spring Break and Easter Services, there will be no "Scrip Day" in April. Please contact Heidi Wildauer or the school office if you need anything. Thank you

**GOD’s Word & All Women ~ Join us on Saturdays** at 11:00 am in the Jerusalem room. We will pray and then read God’s Word out loud in community. Don’t worry, you don’t have to read out loud if you only want to listen. There is no Bible study booklet, just bring your favorite Bible. If you don’t have one, we have extras available. If you need a Bible we will get you one. God’s Word is powerful and able to change our lives, thoughts, words, and actions. For more information contact Kelly Sienicki.

### **Calendar of Events**

<b>TODAY .....</b>	<b>April 16, 2023</b>
Sunday School & Bible Classes.....	9:30 am
Worship Service.....	9:30 am
Adult Basketball.....	2:00-4:00 pm
<b>MON:</b>	
Board Meetings.....	7:00 pm
<b>TUES:</b>	
Board of Lay Ministry Meeting .....	6:30 pm
<b>WED:</b>	
Men’s Breakfast Bible Study .....	6:30 am
Day School Chapel .....	8:05 am
<b>THURS:</b>	
Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study .....	9:30 am
Preschool Chapel .....	9:30 am
Father & Son Game Night .....	7:00-9:00 pm
<b>FRI:</b>	
Fine Arts Festival.....	7:00 pm
<b>SAT:</b>	
Women Reading GOD’S Word in Community .....	11:00 am-12:30 pm
<b>NEXT SUNDAY .....</b>	<b>April 23, 2023</b>
Sunday School & Bible Classes.....	8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion.....	9:30 am

**The Hospitality Committee** needs your help! This Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be creating the next round of dinners for our shut-ins of the church and community. We are in need of potatoes and beef broth. There is a table in the narthex for these items labeled Hospitality Committee. We will meet in the kitchen on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to prepare the meals. All are welcome and encouraged to come help if you are able. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Schooler or Beth Enders. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve.

## **ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOWCASE 2023**

The Arts and Crafts Showcase will be Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, with performances beginning at 7:00 pm and the gallery open until 9:00pm. If you are interested in submitting an original art or craft piece, or performing by singing, playing an instrument, etc., please submit the information and art/craft piece to the school office by Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Forms are available by the offering box. **Please plan on joining us for an entertaining evening on the 21st! Punch and cookies will be provided by the PTL.**

**LWML Spring Bible Break** at St. Paul, South Bend, on Saturday, April 29, 9:30-11:30 am, lunch following. Pastor Jording will lead Bible study. Ingathering: Resurrection Lutheran Academy. See the “Check It Out” board for more information.

**ALL MEMBERS of St. Paul’s are invited and strongly encouraged** to attend the “Connect to Disciple” Bible study. This is the first congregational bible study for the revitalization program. The study will be held on Sunday mornings, starting today at 8:30 am (for 45 minutes) in the Fellowship Hall, and on Wednesday nights, beginning April 19, at 6:30 pm for about one hour. The study has six units and is devoted to study the Word and has time for interaction. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to grow together in God’s Word.

**Parish Fellowship is hosting** a Father / Son Game Night on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Please bring your favorite board games and card games. We’ll have snack stuff and sweet treats along with punch. Fathers and sons- please come with your father or son; if you don’t have one, please come anyway! It’ll be a great night of fun and fellowship!

**“Time and Talent” Survey** -- Each member of St. Paul's is asked to complete the survey. If you have not done this electronically you can find a paper copy available next to the offering box in the Narthex. Please complete and drop in the box no later than Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you from the Board of Stewardship.

**Meals on Wheels Door Offering - April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023** - We would like to keep our prices low so that meals can be affordable for all seniors. If you are interested in helping, we will have a door offering on April 23<sup>rd</sup> after the service. Checks may be made payable to St Paul’s Lutheran Church with Meals on Wheels noted in the memo section. If you have questions about the program, you may contact Joanna Fox.

**Do you know about Lutheran Hour Ministries?** They do Christian outreach like The Lutheran Hour for TV, printed Christian Material, internet and music in association with LCMS and LWML. You can listen to The Lutheran hour! Find your local station at [lhm.org/lutheranhour](http://lhm.org/lutheranhour). National outlets include SiriusXM Sundays at 10 AM ET(Family Talk Channel 131), iHeartRadio/Spotify/Apple/Google (Podcast on demand) and Classic Broadcasts at [lhm.org/sentradio](http://lhm.org/sentradio). Share this info with all your family, friends and neighbors.

### **YOUTH NEWS**

Thank you to all of our Youth (and parents) who helped set up for and prepare the Easter breakfast. We had a wonderful time in the kitchen in fellowship with one another, and while there were a few messes (Easter breakfast wouldn't be complete without some pancake batter ending up in odd places), the Youth pulled it off as usual and provided a filling breakfast on a blessed Easter morning. Our Lord has risen, He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

### **SCHOOL CORNER**

Spring has come and the school has been enjoying some lovely kickball weather! That also means we have lots of activity going on until the end of the school year.

The school enjoyed watching the Super Mario Bros. movie at the Bremen Theater on Friday, as an award for meeting their Reading Challenge goals. NWEA testing is next week. The 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade are visiting the band program to try out instruments. **We also have a meeting regarding Choice Scholarships on Weds., the 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm, for our families.**

**Please don't forget to sign up for a performance or display, or to attend, the Fine Arts Showcase on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00pm!**

**Also, mark your calendars for the spring play, "Jonah's Druthers", on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm! It will be a whale of a tale!**

**Finally, if you know anyone looking for a Christian-based education for Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, please encourage them to contact us. YOU are our best advertisements! Online enrollment is available through the church website (school side).**