# resurrection REALity

# THE LIVING LORD GIVES PROOF AND PEACE

Second Sunday of Easter

# ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

April 7, 2024

#### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

#### PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

Lord God, I can be slow to believe that your Son truly rose from the dead and what it means for my relationship with you. Remind me today of the proof he provided to his disciples, and work in me a firm trust in the truth of his resurrection. Comfort my heart with what it all means—what Jesus himself proclaimed—that I have peace with you through him. In his name I pray. Amen.

#### FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service along with a Kids' Corner for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

#### THANK OFFERING

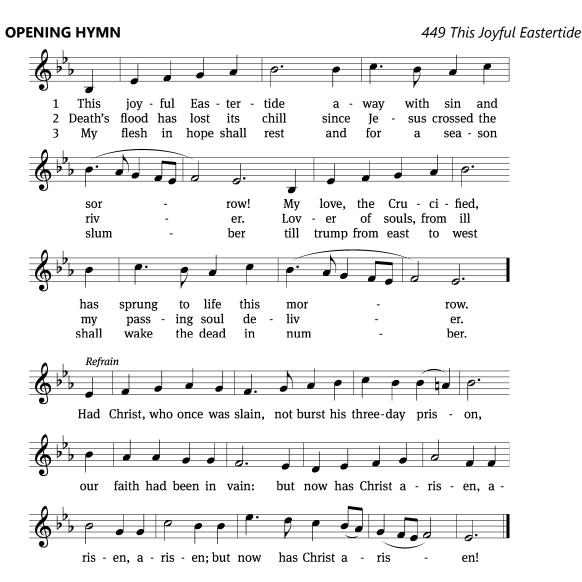
You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



#### HOLY COMMUNION

Today St. Paul's will be celebrating Holy Communion. The Bible tells us that those who take the Lord's Supper together are to recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Cor. 11:29), examine themselves (1 Cor. 11:28), and be united in faith with their fellow communicants (1 Cor. 10:17). For these reasons, it is our practice that only those who are members of St. Paul's or of a congregation within our fellowship join us at the Lord's Table. If you are interested in learning how you can partake of Holy Communion with us in the future, the pastor would be pleased to speak with you after the service.

The Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the Word of God and the forgiveness, life, and salvation we receive through the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934 Tune: Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684 Text and tune: Public domain

#### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

#### **ABSOLUTION**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

# Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

# Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

# Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

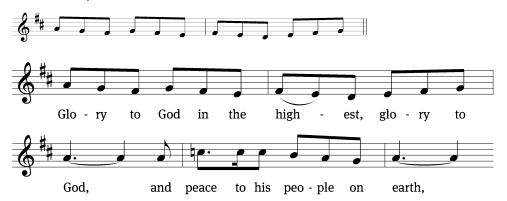
# Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

#### Amen.

## **GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST**

(short musical intro)







Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman
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# The Word

## **SALUTATION**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

**HOLY BAPTISM** 

(10:00 am)

Weston Robert Batzel

Wyatt Charles Batzel



FIRST READING Acts 18:1–11

<sup>1</sup>After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup>There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them. <sup>3</sup>Because he had the same occupation, he stayed and worked with them, for they were tentmakers by trade. <sup>4</sup>Every Sabbath he led a discussion in the synagogue, trying to persuade both Jews and Greeks.

<sup>5</sup>When Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul was entirely devoted to preaching the word, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. <sup>6</sup>But when they opposed Paul and slandered him, he shook out his clothes and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on, I will go to the Gentiles!"

<sup>7</sup>He left that place and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshipper of God, whose house was next door to the synagogue. <sup>8</sup>Crispus, the

synagogue leader, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians, when they heard, believed and were baptized.

<sup>9</sup>One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid, but keep on speaking, and do not be silent. <sup>10</sup>For I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to harm you, because I have many people in this city." <sup>11</sup>He stayed there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 John 1:1–4

<sup>1</sup>That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have observed and our hands have touched regarding the Word of Life—<sup>2</sup>the life appeared, and we have seen it. We testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. <sup>3</sup>We are proclaiming what we have seen and heard also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We write these things to you so that our joy may be complete.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 20:29

Alleluia!

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** John 20:19–31

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." <sup>22</sup>After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>Whenever you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe."

<sup>26</sup>After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."

<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

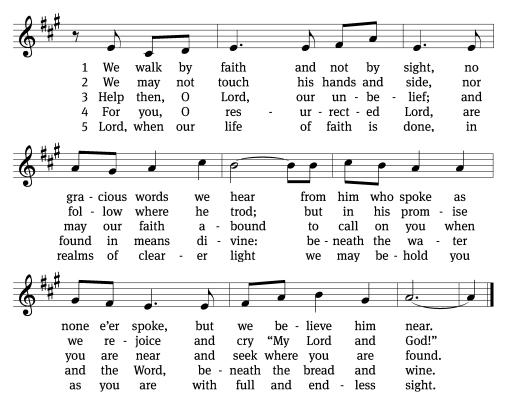
<sup>30</sup>Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt. Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text: Public domain

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**SERMON** John 20:19–31

You Have Not Seen, But...

#### NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be seated

#### **OFFERING**

"Do not store up treasures for yourselves on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. Because where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21).

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The pastor speaks the Prayer of the Church on behalf of the congregation.

Stand

# The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we also bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. See p.295 in the hymnal for preparation.

#### **PREFACE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(short musical intro)



Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman

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#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

#### **LAMB OF GOD**

(short musical intro)



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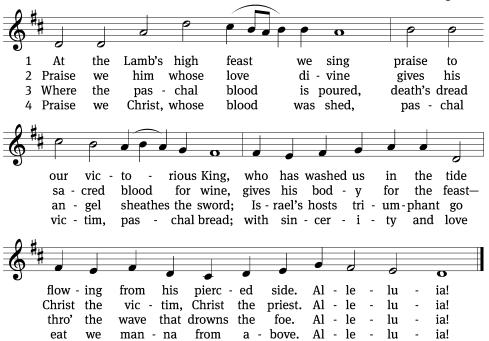
Be seated

## **DISTRIBUTION**

"The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (1 Corinthians 10:16,17). Please follow the directions of the ushers during distribution.

# 675 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**



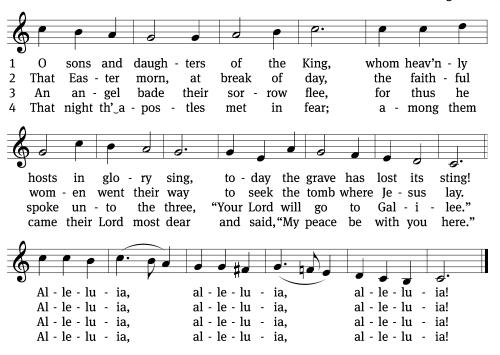
- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky, hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie. You have conquered in the fight, you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall; you have opened paradise, and your saints in you shall rise.
  Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days, Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-1868, alt.; Latin, c. 4th-10th cent., alt. 17th cent. Tune: Kirchengeseng, Ivancice, 1566 Text and tune: Public domain

#### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

# 456 O Sons and Daughters of the King



5 When Thomas afterwards had heard that Jesus had fulfilled his word, he doubted that it was the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 6 "Thomas, behold my side," said he, "my hands, my feet, my body see; and doubt not, but believe in me." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God," he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8 Blessèd are they that have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been; in life eternal they shall reign. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days to God your hearts and voices raise in laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; Text and tune: Public domain



#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**



Text: tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, alt.; Christian F. Gellert, 1715–1769, abr. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

#### **THANKSGIVING**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

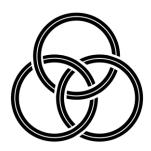
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated



## **CLOSING HYMN**

# 931 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise sts. 1, 4



Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, abr. Tune: Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

# **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING**

We have a quarterly voters' meeting today, April 7, at 11:15 am, in the church basement.

#### **HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE**

Our next midweek Bible study series is called *How We Got the Bible*. The story of the Bible has been called "The Greatest Story Ever Told." But did you ever wonder where the Bible came from? Who wrote it? Why did they write it? Who decided which books to include? In this study, Dr. Paul Maier travels to The Bible Museum in Goodyear, Arizona, to take a look at how we got the Bible. Join us this Tuesday or Wednesday as we dive into how the Lord has preserved his sacred Word.

#### ST. PAUL'S LIBRARY WISH LIST

We have new beautiful cabinets installed in the basement. The plan for the upper cabinets is to develop a bigger church library for members to utilize. A library wish list has been compiled of books and series that would provide a great blessing to the congregation as we seek to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord, his work in the world, the history of salvation and church history, how to interact with people of other religions and evaluate the teachings of other Christian denominations, and more. If you would like to donate money toward the purchase of new books for our library, you can find copies of the wish list printed in the narthex. You can submit gifts via the offering plate with "library" in the memo line, and if you'd like a specific book or series purchased then please send a note to Pastor Groth.

#### LWMS SPRING RALLY

The LWMS Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 13, at English Lutheran Church, 741 N. East Avenue, Viroqua, WI. Registration will begin at 12:30 pm with the program starting at 1:00 pm. The guest speaker for the rally will be Chad Marohn, principal of Cornerstone Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI. This is a new high school for area youth. Principal Marohn will be speaking about the development and current status of the high school and the role it plays in the community. We look forward to hearing about this new endeavor. A light luncheon will be served following the business meeting.

#### MEMORIAL GIVEN

A gift of \$1,000 has been given to St. Paul's in memory of Jason Hatz.

#### **OFFERING SUMMARY** (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2024 Weekly Budget: \$11,826.00 Budget to Date: \$153,738.00 Received Last Week: \$13,181.43 Rec'd to Date: \$118,724.14

#### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Maundy Thursday: 149 Online Viewers: 13 Total: 162

Good Friday 1:30 pm: 170 Online Viewers: 14 7:00 pm: 64 Total: 248

8:00 am: 129 Online Viewers: 81 10:00 am: 159 Total: 369

# **CALENDAR**

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am <b>11:15 am</b>	Worship with Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship with Communion Quarterly Voters' Meeting
MONDAY	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Information Class Choir Practice
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 3:30 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class (double class)
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Bible Study Worship

#### **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Presiding MinisterPastor Brock GrothAccompanistIrene Bakken

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