resurrection REALity

JESUS' BUSINESS IS LOVE; THEREFORE, SO IS OURS

Sixth Sunday of Easter

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

May 5, 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

Father in heaven, you so loved me that you gave your only-begotten Son that I could have eternal life. With the same power used in his resurrection, please resurrect my heart today in loving obedience to you and your commands. Also revive my heart in loving my neighbor, that they can also know your love as I do. Bless my worship as I take in the message of your love. 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.

SETTING ONE p.154

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.

OPENING HYMN

460 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven



- 1 Al le lu ia, al le lu ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic es raise:
- 2 Al le lu ia, Christ is ris en! Death at last has met de feats
- 3 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Glo-ry be to God on high:



sing to God a hymn of glad-ness, sing to God a hymn of praise; see the an-cient pow'rs of e - vil in con - fu - sion and re - treat; al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who has gained the vic - to - ry;



he who on the cross a vic-tim for the world's sal - va-tion bled—once he died, and once was bur-ied: now he lives for - ev - er-more, al - le - lu - ia to the Spir-it, fount of love and sanc-ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead. Je - sus Christ, the world's Re-deem-er, whom we wor-ship and a - dore. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia to the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885; (st. 2): rev. Jubilate Hymns Ltd.
Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867
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INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Almighty God, merciful Father,

I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.

In what I have done and left undone.

I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.

I have not loved others as you command.

For this I deserve your punishment now and forever.

I am sorry for my sins.

I repent of them.

I beg for your mercy.

Silence for meditation and reflection

ABSOLUTION

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



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



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



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GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH



The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING Acts 9:36–42

³⁶In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was always doing good deeds and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became sick and died. After they had washed her, they laid her in an upstairs room. ³⁸Since Lydda is near Joppa, when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, who urged him, "Come to us without delay!"

³⁹Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they led him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing him the robes and clothing that Dorcas made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰After Peter sent them all outside, he got down on his knees and prayed. Then he turned toward the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her stand up. After he called the saints and the widows, he presented her to them alive.

⁴²This became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Peter stayed in Joppa for many days with a man named Simon the tanner.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7–11, 19–21

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸The one who does not love has not known God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God's love for us was revealed: God has sent his only-begotten Son into the world so that we may live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, if God loved us so much, we also should love one another.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar. For how can anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, love God, whom he has not seen? ²¹This then is the command we have from him: The one who loves God should also love his brother.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Corinthians 13:13

Alleluia!

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is love.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 15:9–17

⁹"As the Father has loved me, so also I have loved you. Remain in my love. ¹⁰If you hold on to my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have held on to my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you these things so that my joy would continue to be in you and that your joy would be complete.

¹²"This is my command: Love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this: that someone lays down his life for his friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you continue to do the things I instruct you. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ¹⁷These things I am instructing you, so that you love one another.

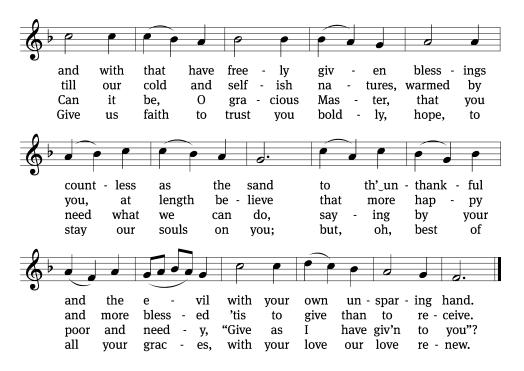
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



continued...



Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON John 15:9–17

We Echo the Father's Joyful Love

Stand

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

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. The one who sows generously will also reap generously. Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:6,7).

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.



Lift up your hearts.



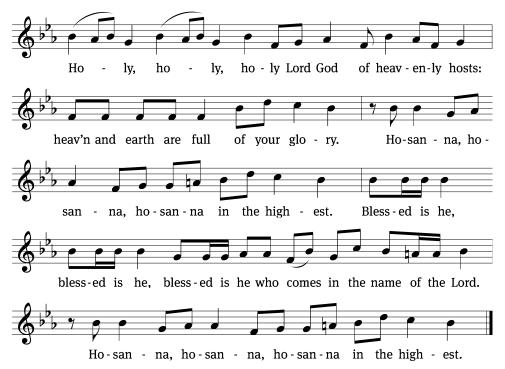
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the

saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with 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

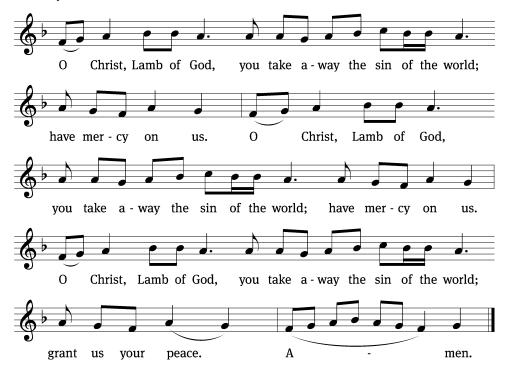
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



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.



VOCALISTS

Congregation may join for the fifth verse.

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God, to thee Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

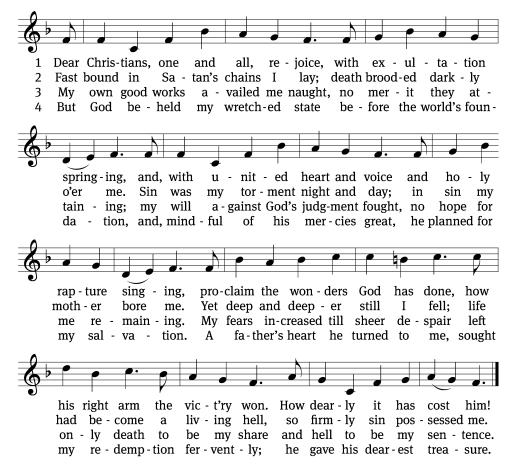
Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down Darkness be over me, my rest a stone Yet in my dreams I'd be Nearer, my God, to thee Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

There let the way appear, steps unto heaven All that thou sendest me, in mercy given Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God, to thee Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise
So by my woes to be
Nearer, my God, to thee
Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God, to thee Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN



5 He spoke to his belovèd Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of my crown, and bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; slay bitter death for them that they may live with you forever."

verses 6-10...

- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will, was born of virgin mother, and, God's good pleasure to fulfill, he came to be my brother. No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; a servant's form like mine he bore to lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I myself will be; for you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, your friend divine, and evermore you shall be mine; the foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "The foe will shed my precious blood, me of my life bereaving; all this I suffer for your good; be steadfast and believing. Life will from death the vict'ry win; my innocence shall bear your sin, and you are blest forever.
- "Now to my Father I depart, the Holy Spirit sending and, heav'nly wisdom to impart, my help to you extending. He will a source of comfort be, teach you to know and follow me, and in all truth will guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and teaching; so shall my kingdom's work be wrought

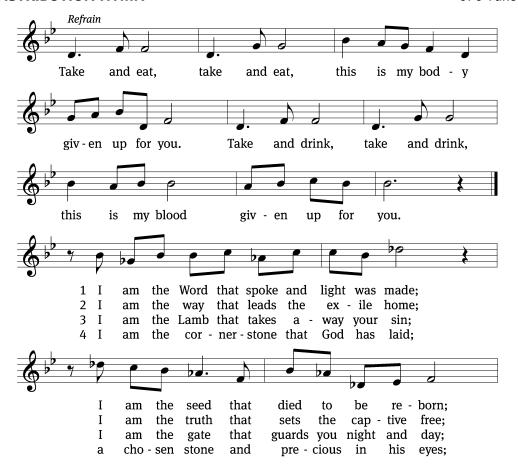
and honored in your preaching.

Take care that no one's man-made laws should e'er destroy the gospel's cause; this final word I leave you."

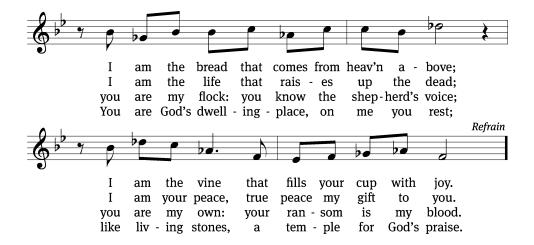
Text: tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

676 Take and Eat



continued...



- I am the light that came into the world;
 I am the light that darkness cannot hide;
 I am the Morning Star that never sets;
 lift up your face, in you my light will shine. (Refrain)
- I am the first and last, the Living One;
 I am the Lord who died that you might live;
 I am the bridegroom, this my wedding song;
 you are my bride, come to the marriage feast. (Refrain)

Text (sts. 1–6): James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010; (Ref): Michael Joncas, b. 1951 Tune: Michael Joncas, b. 1951

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Stand

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.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

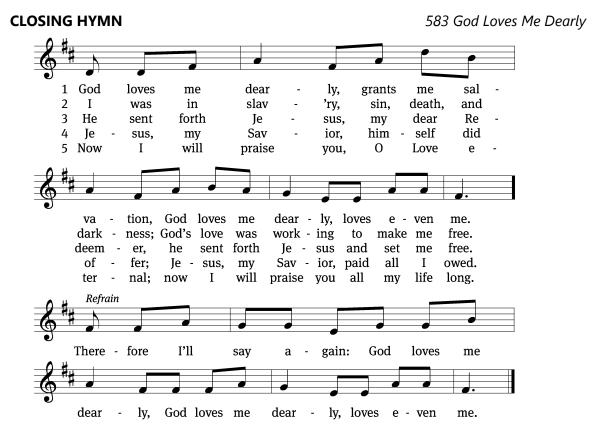
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE

Our 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.

CHURCH AND SCHOOL PICNIC

In the hope that more of our church family will be able to attend, this year we're going to have our church and school picnic on Sunday, May 26, following the second service. It will be held at the revamped school grounds so the congregation can enjoy the new blessings we have at the school. There will be food and games and good fellowship and fun.

The faculty is leading the planning and preparation, but we need much help. Please consider helping. We look for many volunteers to make this picnic a success for our St. Paul's family. A planning meeting will be next Thursday, May 2, in the church basement, at 6:00 pm.

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.

EXAMINATION

Examination of our potential confirmands this year will be in place of Bible study on Sunday, May 12, in the sanctuary. The congregation is invited to review the doctrines of the Bible and to witness these young Christians profess their faith.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2024 Weekly Budget: \$11,826.00 Budget to Date: \$201,042.00 Received Last Week: \$10,428.64 Rec'd to Date: \$154,014.97

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 99 Online Viewers: 44 10:00 am: 145 Total: 288

Sunday Bible Study: 41 Sunday School: 7 Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 25

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship with Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship with Communion
MONDAY	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Bible Basics Class Choir Practice
TUESDAY	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Mornings with Mommy Bible Study
WEDNESDAY	9:00 am 3:30 pm	Bible Study (same as Tues.) Public School Catechism Class
THURSDAY	6:00 pm	3K Investigation Committee Meeting
NEXT SUNDAY	8:00 am 9:10 am 9:15 am 10:00 am	Worship Sunday School Examination Worship

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Accompanist

Pastor Brock Groth Harriet Langrehr

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