

The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

March 31, 2024

10:30 am

St. Paul Lutheran Church

106 Maple St.

Reading, OH 45215

513-821-0987 • stpaulreading.org

Welcome, Friends and Guests!

We would like to extend a special welcome to those visiting with us today. We invite you to join us again on any Sunday morning for 10:30 a.m. worship. We offer in-person worship as well as livestreaming services on our website.

St. Paul Lutheran Church is a community that serves the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe we are called to serve the world as His disciples and love our neighbors as ourselves. We reach out to the community in a variety of ways, including supporting Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center in Lockland, as well as national and international agencies. We nurture members of our own community through prayer, study, and social activities for adults, youth, and children. New participants are welcome at all our activities and groups.

If you would like to know more about St. Paul, or need the help of a pastor, please call us at 513-821-0987 or email mail@stpaulreading.org.

Notes on the Service

May our time together be a source of inspiration to you and praise to the Living God. Newcomers and visitors, you are especially welcome. We welcome children to worship.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. We invite you to participate if you believe Jesus is your Lord. You may receive from the common cup, or using an individual communion cup. Communion cups containing a wafer and grape juice are available on the table just outside the sanctuary doors. Children may come forward with their family for a blessing.

The Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

March 31, 2024

Preservice Music

Prelude

“Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed!”

Keith & Kristyn Getty

Gathering

Easter Acclamation

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Please kneel or stand as you are able. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: 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, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: His mercy endures forever.

Please stand as you are able.

Entrance Hymn #151 (green hymnal)

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

WOV Setting 4



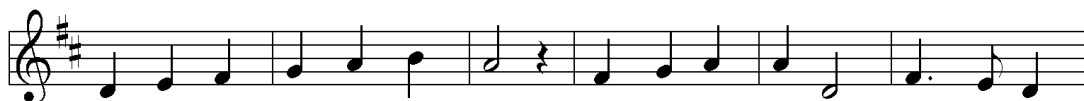
☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. ☐ Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



☐ This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. (continued)



I Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of



all cre - a - tion: **II** Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and



might to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men



III This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



I For the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



III This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A - men

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The Word

Blessing of the Lector

P: Christ is risen!

The word of God is living and active, sharper than a two-edged sword. Carole, as you read to us the scriptures, may they pierce our souls and judge the thoughts and the intentions of our hearts.

C: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ Peter began to speak to the people: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn #129 (green hymnal) vv. 1-3, 5

“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹ Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,
² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,
⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.
⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation: Hymn #671 (blue hymnal) vv. 1-3

“Alleluia, Alleluia”

The Holy Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 16th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus' body. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Special Music

Kathryn Keith, vocalist

"Christ is Risen, Sing Alleluia!"

Handt Hanson, arr. by Henry Wiens

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Silence for reflection and meditation.

Hymn of the Day #128 (green hymnal)

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

Please stand as you are able.

The Apostles' Creed

A: Let us confess our common faith with all Christians throughout time and place, using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

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.

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

After the last petition:

A: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Invitation to Offering

A: Let us offer our gifts to “the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.” (*Isaiah 25:9*)

Presentation of the Gifts

WOV Setting 4

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And

so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

WOV Setting 4

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness; you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence. We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us. We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all.

We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen, the people of your promise: the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the memory of the ancestors, the homecoming from exile, and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



P: Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made

with us. We remember the sacrifice of his life: his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death. But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb, his ascension to the seat of power, and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit. We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.



P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.



P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Come and eat at God's table.

Please be seated.

Agnus Dei: Hymn #89 (maroon hymnal)

“The Lamb”

Communion

P: The Body of Christ, broken for you.
The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

Those who wish to commune at the altar rail may either bring forward their individual Communion kit, or receive the wafer and wine/grape juice by intinction (dipping) from the Communion Ministers, when they are directed forward by the usher. Those who wish to commune in their seat with their individual Communion kit may remain seated. Children may come forward with their family for a blessing.

Communion Hymn #210 (green hymnal)

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” vv. 1, 4-7

Communion Hymn #352 (green hymnal)

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives” vv. 1-2, 8

Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle

WOV Setting 4

Thank-ful hearts and voices raise; tell ev-'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who
seek the Lord re - joice, re - joice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us, O God, with your
prom - is - es, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your

Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending

Announcements for God's Mission in the World

Please stand as you are able.

Blessing

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and
forever.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn #143 (green hymnal)

“Now All the Vault of Heav'n Resounds”

Easter Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in the peace of the risen Christ. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

“Christ is Arisen”

G.F. Handel, arr. Patrick M. Liebergen