

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church - Red Hill - Worship Service
April 7, 2024 - 9am

*Please fill out a communion card located in the pew to let us know you were here today.
They can be placed in the collection plates. Thank you.*

Prelude *(Christ the Lord is Risen Today (Johnson)(Margie Rodenberger on Organ))*

Welcome

Hello everyone! Welcome to worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, I'm Pastor Rick Summy. Our Worship Assistant Today is Anne Gabel.

If you have not done so in 2024, we ask that you please take a moment to fill out a communion card located in the pew in front of you, or in the narthex as you exit today. They can be placed in the collection plate as it is passed in the pews today, or dropped off in the church office. We will be sharing the peace so please feel free to extend a greeting to those around you at the appropriate time. Finally, we will be sharing communion in the form of bread and wine, so we will be processing up to receive the bread and wine during communion, there will be a gluten free option available.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in Loving memory of the birthday anniversary of David Sheets presented by wife Evelyn and daughters Michelle and Lynn.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Mildred Richard presented by sons Clyde and Alan and families.

The Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God in loving memory of Carrie Wolf presented by daughter Shirley and David Moskauski.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

ALL: Amen.

Pastor: Look, here is water!

ALL: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Pastor: Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning
your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.
Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.
In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

ALL: Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Pastor: At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

Song: *(Green Book#143 - Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds)*

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

ALL: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day *(Pastor)*

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

The First Reading is from Acts, the fourth chapter, verses thirty-two through thirty-five *(Assistant)*

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Assistant: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God

(Please stand as you are able)

Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter, verses nineteen through thirty-one *(Pastor)*

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.

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ** *(please be seated)*

The Message Pastor Rick Summy

Song *(Because He Lives (Amen))* Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Gloria Gaither | Jason Ingram | Matt Maher | William J. Gaither © 2014 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Rising Springs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) S. D. G. Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Twelve Lions Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Worship Together Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Be Essential Songs (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)

Verse 1 I believe in the Son
 I believe in the Risen One
 I believe I overcome
 By the power of His blood

(Continues on next page)

Chorus Amen amen
I'm alive I'm alive because He lives
Amen amen
Let my song join the one that never ends
(Because He lives)

Verse 2 I was dead in the grave
I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away **(Chorus)**

Apostles' Creed. *(Please Stand as you are able)*

Assistant: Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith
sharing together 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 *(Assistant):*

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

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Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture trees, crops, wildflowers, and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain, especially those on our prayer list. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your leaders cry out, O God, and you listen. Your Holy Spirit moves among us, inspiring us to worship and to serve you and others in Jesus' name. Stir up your Spirit in the heart of a rostered leader so that he or she may be moved to seek a call in our Synod and congregation. Guide and inspire the work of those who serve on this church's Call Committee and Congregation Council as they move forward with their work during this time of transition. God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**
(Please be seated)

The Peace

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you all!

ALL: And also with you!

Pastor: Let us offer one another a sign of peace
(feel free to shake hands or say hello to those around you)
(Please be seated)

Offering & Prayer

Song *(Sanctuary 3X)* CCLI License No. 108389

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true:
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. **(repeats 3x)**

Song *(Just as Jesus Told Us)* Dancing at the Harvest # 29 Printed by Ownership of Sufficient Copies
CCLI # 1083898

Just as Jesus told us, we will break this bread.
Just as Jesus told us, we shall all be fed; and we will remember
what he did and said, and how he goes on living in the bread.

Just as Jesus told us, we will pour this wine.
Just as Jesus told us, we will come and dine; and we will remember
How he lived in time, and how he goes on living in the wine.

Just as Jesus told us, pass the bread around.
Just as Jesus told us, more wine can be found; and we will remember
Bread and wine abound. So break the loaf and pass the cup around

Pastor: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit.
 May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love.
 Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
 through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

ALL: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving *(Please Stand as you are able)*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And Also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord or God.

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

Thanksgiving at the Table

Pastor: Holy, mighty and merciful Lord,
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent us Jesus your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

ALL: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray together in the words our Father taught us:

ALL: 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.

Holy Communion

Pastor: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

ALL: Amen.

The Distribution

*Please take a small cup to receive the wine (or a pre-filled cup of grape juice)
Please take a piece of the bread as well.
A gluten free option is also available.*

Songs:

(In Christ Alone) Stuart Townend/Keith Getty, Copyright 2002 Thankyou Music (PRS),admin.
Worldwide by Worship Together.com songs

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my Light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought & storm.
What heights of love! What depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when striving cease.
My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand. **Interlude**

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. **Interlude**

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. **Interlude**

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.

(Worthy is the Lamb) Copyright 2000 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing CCLI# 1083898

Thank You for the cross Lord.
Thank You for the price You paid.
Bearing all my sin and shame,
In love you came, and gave amazing grace.

Thank You for this love Lord.
Thank You for the nail-pierced hands.
Washed me in Your cleansing flow,
Now all I know Your forgiveness and embrace.

Chorus Worthy is the Lamb, seated on the throne.
Crown you now with many crowns,
You reign victorious. High and lifted up, Jesus Son of God.
The darling of heaven crucified. Worthy is the Lamb. **(Repeat)**

Verse 1 Before the throne of God above
 I have a strong and perfect plea
 A great High Priest whose name is Love
 Who ever lives and pleads for me
 My name is graven on His hands
 My name is written on His heart
 I know that while in heav'n He stands
 No tongue can bid me thence depart
 No tongue can bid me thence depart

Verse 2 When Satan tempts me to despair
 And tells me of the guilt within
 Upward I look and see Him there
 Who made an end to all my sin
 Because the sinless Saviour died
 My sinful soul is counted free
 For God the Just is satisfied
 To look on Him and pardon me
 To look on Him and pardon me

Verse 3 Behold Him there the risen Lamb
 My perfect spotless righteousness
 The great unchangeable I Am
 The King of glory and of grace
 One with Himself I cannot die
 My soul is purchased with His blood
 My life is hid with Christ on high
 With Christ my Saviour and my God
 With Christ my Saviour and my God

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

ALL: Amen.

The Blessing

Pastor: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
 and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always.

ALL: Amen.

Announcements from the Congregation *(if needed)*

Song *(Jesus Is Alive)* Ron Kenoly © 1987 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (IMI) CCLI License 1083898

Hallelujah Jesus is alive
Death has lost its vict'ry
And the grave has been denied
Jesus lives forever
He's alive He's alive

He's the Alpha and Omega
The first and last is He
The curse of sin is broken
And we have perfect liberty
The Lamb of God has risen
He's alive He's alive (Repeat 1 time)

Ending: Hallelujah Jesus is alive

Dismissal

Pastor: Alleluia! Go in peace.
Rejoice and be glad.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude *(Jesus Is Alive)*

We Remember in Our Prayers

Colleen; Colton Boyington; Carol Esten; Leonard Finkboon; Alice Hager; Larry Hange; Barbara Brode Henry; Mo Johnson; Laverne Keyser; Frances Lechner; David Leight; Alma Leister; Michael McKay; Megan McLaughin; Mary Richard; Edith Stevens; Dave Stewart; Danielle Thomas; Ryan Weaver; Charles Woertz; Linda Wood.

Announcements & Events

Special thanks to Pastor Rick Summy for leading worship and to our worship assistant, Anne Gabel as well as to our ushers. Thanks to our bread baker and communion set up team, musicians, and all who help with worship.

Please keep Colton Dunn Boyington and his family in your prayers as he is received into membership through his baptism today following worship. May God be with Colton and his family as he continues to grow in faith surrounded by the love and prayers of his faith community. Congratulations to Colton and his family.

Planned Estate Giving: Our updated Gift Policy now highlights unstipulated monetary giving, permanent monetary endowments, and monetary quasi-endowments. Unstipulated gifts may be used for the regular operations. Permanent endowments allow quarterly interest only to be used for operations with the original monetary amount being restricted for use only by the synod if the church ceases to exist. The new quasi-endowment may be used at discretion for operations and building emergencies of needs/repairs. If you have questions, please reach out to Erin Uber or Jonathan Walter.

The Resources Ministry Team is seeking a Chairperson: This very critical team at St. Paul's handles our property and resources and is crucial to our being able to operate. We need someone willing to steer this team and coordinate its efforts. You do not need to be on Council to volunteer. Please contact Jenn Eisenberger if you are interested and able to help. Jennifer.eisenberger@stpaulredhill.org.

UPCCC Ministry Team: is seeking a chairperson and members. You do not need to be on council to volunteer and we would appreciate anyone who would like to join us on this important ministry team. Meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month at 5:45 pm in the multipurpose room. Please contact Alice Hager to volunteer. Alice.hager@stpaulredhill.org.

Redner's Save-A-Tape Program: Place the entire Redner's tape in the box outside of Fellowship Hall next to the entrance doors/brochure rack. No receipts older than 3 years. The Funds raised help our Outreach & Community Ministry Team with cards, community engagement, and much more. Thank you.

Make Music Upper Perk: Mark your calendar to join the fun and enjoy the music on Friday, June 21st for our 12th Annual event. Held in 5 different towns, this public community music festival is free and FUN! Visit ValleyArtScene.wordpress.com to register as a musician or volunteer and for more information or to make a donation.

We Have a Team Going on the ASP Mission Trip This Summer: There will be one crew of 9 (3 adults & 6 youth) traveling from June 29 to July 6, 2024 on the ASP mission trip. This is our first trip since 2019 and everyone is very excited. We are told we will be in Kentucky and should know the exact location in April. Stock Sales to help support the ASP will be happening before and after worship on April 14th, 21st, 28th and May 5th. Also, we will have a car wash at St. Paul's to help raise funds for the trip. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for details. Thank you to all who have supported our ASP missions in the past, now and in the future.