

*“Landmark of the Gospel Since 1834”*

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Our Purpose: Led by the Word of God, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is a family who lives and shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.*

May 22, 2022

10:30 AM

**Easter 6**

*After the ringing of the bell ...*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia Christ is Risen,  
**Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!**  
Christ is Risen, Alleluia!  
**We too shall rise, Alleluia!**

PRELUDE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the waters of baptism,  
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,  
and we are a new creation.  
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,  
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,  
flowing freely from your throne: through the earth,  
through the city and countryside,  
through every living thing.  
You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;  
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.  
**Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,  
and our sin is drowned forever.**  
On this day of resurrection, you open the gate of righteousness  
**and we pass safely through.**  
In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.  
**You nourish us and enclose us in safety.**  
You call us forth and send us out.  
**In lush and barren places, you are with us.**  
You have become our salvation.  
**Now breathe upon this water  
and awaken your church once more.**  
Call your beloved and holy people to the resurrection life.  
**Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.**

**To you, our Beginning and our End,  
our Shepherd and Lamb,  
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**1 My life flows on in endless song,  
above earth's lamentation.  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
that hails a new creation.**

**Refrain:**

**No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?**

**2 Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]**

**3 What though my joys and comforts die,  
I know my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]**

**4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his!  
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]**

GREETING

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

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.  
 Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
 free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and 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.  
 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the  
 hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and  
 might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
 has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING Acts 16:9-15

9During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” 10When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

11We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, 12and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in

this city for some days. 13On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. 14A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. 15When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

PSALM 67

*Read responsively*

p. 243-244

<sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

<sup>2</sup>**Let your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup>**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>**The earth has brought forth her increase;  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

<sup>7</sup>May God give us his blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10, 22-25; 22:1-5

<sup>10</sup>And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

<sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

<sup>22:1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

GOSPEL VERSE

p. 83

*Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life, Alleluia.*

GOSPEL READING

John 14:23-29

## **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

## **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

#### MESSAGE

“Let God Write Your Story”

*A message especially for those who are making decisions in their lives and considering new paths.*

#### HYMN

*Blessed Assurance*

*WOV#699*

**1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

#### **Refrain:**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**2 Perfect communion, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.  
Angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]**

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest.  
I in my Savior am happy and bless’d,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. [Refrain]**

### 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 THE CHURCH

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of new life, open your church to the unexpected ways your Spirit is at work. Guide bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders in their visioning, partnership, and planning. Surround us with your peace. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Give a vision of increase and abundant harvest for farmers, laborers, and gardeners who are beginning their growing season. Join their efforts with the goodness of creation to feed all living things. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Shine your light of wisdom and peace among nations. When those in power seek to assert dominance over others, confound their ways and make them yield to your humble authority. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Give safe haven to those who seek healing, liberation, or peace (*especially*). Create places filled with hospitality where hurting people find your loving presence and wholeness. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Uphold the work of ministries and organizations in our communities who assist people experiencing homelessness, citizens returning from prison, and all marginalized people (*especially*). Accomplish your will through their efforts. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Assemble your people at rivers, streams, and fonts, where we remember our baptism and welcome others into the communion of saints. Gather us with those who have died when we meet together at your river of life. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

PEACE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
 For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.  
 For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
 Future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of the resurrection, you give us many gifts throughout our lives. Today, we offer these gifts back to you and ask you to bring new life to our world through them. Use us and your gifts to shine your light brightly. We ask this in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, **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.**

## BLESSING

God, the Author of life,  
 Christ, the living Cornerstone,  
 and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,  
 † bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## HYMN

*It is Well**R#210*

**1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
 when sorrows like sea billows roll;  
 whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
 "It is well, it is well with my soul."**

**Refrain**

**It is well with my soul;  
 it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
 let this blest assurance control:  
 that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
 and hath shed his own blood for my soul. Refrain**

**3 He lives - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
 my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
 is nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more;  
 praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain**

**4 O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
even so, it is well with my soul. Refrain**

DISMISSAL

*Go in peace, to live and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through love and service to all.*

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*Serving in mission together: Pastor Laura Cavendish and the members of St. Paul*  
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*Please mask if you are infectious or closely exposed to someone with a virus. We will be passing the offering plates again. Sanitizer will still be available in the pews.*