

Seventh Sunday of Easter

We are an RIC (Reconciling In Christ) Congregation

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church is a community of the people of God, called to serve all people. As Jesus welcomed each person exactly as he or she was, we will do the same. We believe that when we are marked by the Cross of Christ in baptism, we are marked as his forever.

So, you are welcome here! We welcome all who wish to worship our Risen Lord and learn about his message. As Jesus included all in his life and death, so do we.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we welcome you
...without regard to race or ethnicity, income level, abilities or disabilities
...without regard to whether you own a home, rent, or are homeless
...without regard to sexual orientation or gender identity: straight, gay, lesbian, transgendered or bisexual
...without regard to age or marital status: single, married, separated, divorced, remarried, widowed or partnered.

We welcome you to join us as an active, responsible, fully participating member, growing with us in faith and fellowship. “All this is from God who reconciled us through Jesus Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”
2 Corinthians 5:18

Today’s Worship Leaders

- Celebrant and Preacher.....Rev. Jerry Straszheim
Minister of Music.....Charles Jones
Lector.....Jane Cuccia
Worship Assistants.....Ray Luis Lopez, Rick Spaulding, Chris Grundman
Ushers.....Lenny Byczynski, Andy Anderson, Dennis Buthmann, David Houlter
Altar Guild.....Cheryl Bjorge, Gretchen Bush, and Emmy Volenberg
Audio Technician.....Mirko Bratic

PRELUDE

WELCOME

EASTER GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia

GATHERING HYMN “For All The Faithful Women” ELW #419
verses 1, 6, 2 & last (Sing as numbered 1, 2, 3.& 4.)

- 1. For all the faithful women who served in days of old, to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told. They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave. To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your pow'r to save.
2. We honor faithful Mary, fair maiden, full of grace. She bore the Christ, our brother, who saved our human race. May we, with her, surrender ourselves to your command and lay upon your altar our gifts of heart and hand.
3. O God, for saints and servants, those named and those unknown, in whom through all the ages your light of glory shone, we offer glad thanksgiving and fervent prayer we raise that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.
4. All praise to God the Father! All praise to Christ the Son! All praise to God the Spirit, who binds the church as one! With saints who went before us, with saints who witness still, we sing glad alleluias and strive to do your will.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Just as God’s work of creation never ends, so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day. Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for water to bathe in, water to drink, for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder, for water that gives life to our planet. C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

CATECHETICAL INSTRUCTION

P: What is baptism?

C: Baptism is not simply water. Instead it is water used according to God's command and connected with God's word.

P: What then is this word of God?

C: Where our Lord Christ says in Matthew 28, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

P: What gifts or benefits does baptism grant?

C: It brings about forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it, as the words and promise of God declare.

P: Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW Pages 140-141

(We sing.)

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. | Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

SENDING HYMN "Borning Cry" ELW #732 verses 1 - 3
(This hymn will be projected on the screen and will include the pictures of our Mothers.)

DISMISSAL

P: Alleluia, Christ is Risen.

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Go in peace and serve the risen Lord.

C: Thanks Be To God.

POSTLUDE

(Personal prayer is available at the side chapel in the front of the sanctuary. If you would like prayer, please go to the side chapel and a prayer partner will join you.)

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

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

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

+ THE LITURGY OF THE WORD +

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, “Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

(After all have communed and the Holy Communion is returned to the Altar and set, we stand and sing the Post Communion Canticle.)

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.

Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.

He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy

with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus’ resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD *(Please remain standing during the Lamb of God.)*

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Please be seated.)

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION *(All are welcome to partake of Holy Communion. If you would prefer grape juice or a gluten free wafer please communicate with the communion assistant.)*

HYMN DURING HOLY COMMUNION
“Let Us Break Bread Together”

ELW #471
verses 1-3

1. Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

(Silence is observed after the reading.)

HYMN “Awesome God”

W&P pg.13

Our God is an awesome God.
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power and love
Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God
He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power and love
Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God. *(Repeat entire song.)*

SECOND READING 1 John 5:9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

(Silence is observed after the reading.)

(Please stand.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL John 17:6-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the seventeenth chapter.

C: Glory to you , O Lord.

Jesus prayed: "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
 - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
 lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

SERMON

Rev. Jerry Straszheim

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

A - men, a - men. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER (*spoken*)

C: 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.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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. *(Bells chime to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.)*

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. *(Bells chime to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.)*

(Please stand.)

HYMN OF THE DAY “They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love”

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord

And we pray that our unity will one day be restored

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, will walk hand in hand,

We will walk with each other, will walk hand in hand,

And together we'll spread the news, that God is in our land

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side

We will work with each other, we will work side by side

And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,

And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son

And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

NICENE CREED

C: 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

L: End divisions within your church, O God. Make us one as you are one. Make our joy complete. You give us eternal life in your Son. When doubts and fears arise, give us peace in the resurrection promise. Sanctify us in your truth and unite us with all the saints. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for those who are homeless, naked, hungry, imprisoned, or abandoned. Send us to shelter, clothe, feed, and visit those in need. We pray for those who are sick, especially Maria Giroffi, Janet Pollack, those on our prayer list and those we offer now either silently or aloud. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We pray for mothers we love and mothers we struggle to love. For adoptive mothers, stepmothers, and foster mothers. For those who long to be mothers. For everyone who has mothered us in the faith. Give rest, healing, wisdom, and strength, mothering God. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING

(Stand and sing as the gifts are being brought forward.)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” ELW #367

(We sing.)

**Eternal is the gift he brings, therefore our heart with rapture sings:
 Christ has triumphed! He is living!
 Now still he comes to give us life and by his presence stills all strife.
 Christ has triumphed! He is living!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

+ THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION +

♩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

♩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin who in dying has destroyed death, and in 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: