

Fifth Sunday of Easter—April 28, 2024

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

14 West Pennsylvania Avenue, Walkersville, Maryland 21793

Worship Service LIVE—9:00 a.m.

Church Phone: 301-845-4600 E-mail: info@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org Web Site: http://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org

Saint Paul's Official YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow1I7 -Q



Through Christ, we joyfully feed the body, mind, and spirit of all.

SERVING TODAY

Minister	Pastor Phil Beck
Lector	Phil Smith
Organist	Jeff Gentry
Ushers	Bill and Barbara Cartwright
Acolyte	Camden Plog & Annabelle Bush

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

President—Patty Rimel
Vice-President—Sheila Kahler
Treasurer—Bill Cartwright
Secretary—Kate Stottlemyer

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE/CANDLES LIT

CHURCH BELL RUNG

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen
- 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. 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.

Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN......ELW 342

- 1 There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom, whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations: Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty.
- 2 Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!" There on its branches see the scars of suff'ring; see where the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood.

- This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.
- 6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

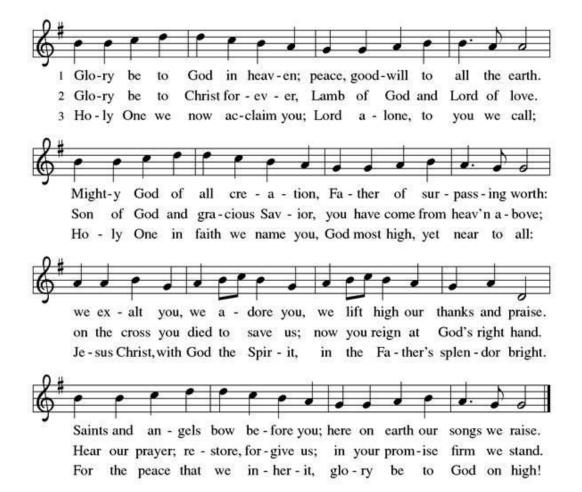
*GREETING (ELW, p. 147)

- 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.

*KYRIE (ELW, p. 203) (Sung)



CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW Pg. 204)



*PRAYER OF THE DAY:

- P: O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40
L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 22

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants shall serve the LORD,

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

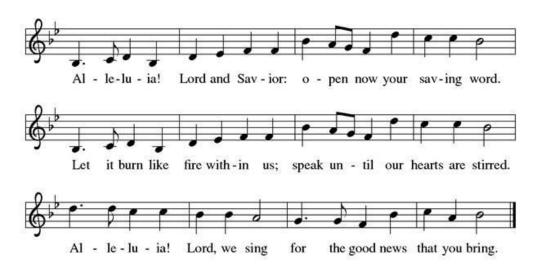
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW, p. 205)



The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter, 15:1-8

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMONPastor Phil Beck

Silence for Reflection

*HYMN OF THE DAY......Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song......ELW 403

- 1 Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight, like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might: come, Holy Spirit, come.
- 2 To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the vine, to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign: come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer, with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare: come, Holy Spirit, come.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Text ⊚ 1982 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*THE 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.

*THE NICENE CREED cont'd

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 CHURCH

P: ... God of grace, C: Hear our prayer.

*The Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING Please place your gift in the offering plate, mail to the church office or consider online giving.

*OFFERTORY HYMN Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW Pg. 186)



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

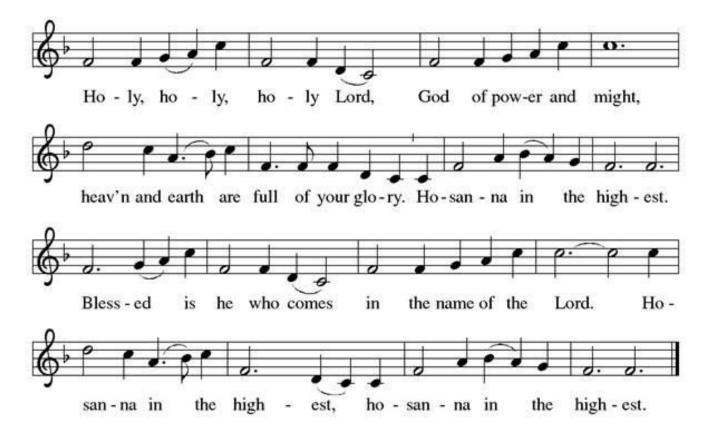
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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, with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim we praise your name and join their unending hymn."

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW Pg. 207)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Amen (ELW Pg. 207)



*THE LORD'S PRAYER:

- P: Gathered into One with the Holy Spirit, we now pray as Jesus taught us...
- 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.

HOLY COMMUNION:

P: All are welcome at Christ's Table, come as you are. The feast is prepared, the table is set, come and eat.

COMMUNION HYMN (ELW P. 208)



*P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED Keith and Deb Horton

BENEDICTION

- P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
- C: Amen.

- 1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light; so learn his love, its length and breadth, its fullness, depth, and height.
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear release, to give the Spirit's unity, the very bond of peace.

- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save; with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.
- For us Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife.
 Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984
Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*DISMISSAL

GO IN PEACE, SERVE THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD.

Announcement regarding livestreaming of the worship services:

St. Paul's intends to continue offering online worship services to share the Gospel through Facebook and Youtube. With the inclusion of in-person attendance during the service, we need to inform you that your presence may be captured in the recording and broadcast through St. Paul's social media platforms. Your comfort and privacy are of utmost importance, if you prefer not to have your image broadcast please contact the office by phone or email or inform the usher as you arrive. The office will keep a list of those wishing NOT to appear in the recording and convey that information to the Media and Technology Ministry.



Joe Collins, Cousin of Joann Valainis

Mark Holloway, Husband of Kate Stottlemyer

Hank Holiday, Friend and neighbor of Kate Stottlemyer

Marion Lawrence, Cousin of Kate Stottlemyer

The Jones Family, Close family friends of Joann Valainis

Gil Eiker, Husband of Rebecca Eiker

Doug Ashbrook, Family Friend of Pastor Phil

Roger Stottlemyer, *Uncle of Kate Stottlemyer*

Family of Sharon Kahler, mother of Sheila and Rodney Kahler, members

Lin Snider, Member

Sue Snyder, Member

Shannon Smith, Friend of the Mildenstein Family

Bob Schmidt, brother of Dottie Titmas

Marea Palmer, Niece of Marcia Gupta

Parker Bazarewski, extended family of Ed Chaney

Joseph Matthew Moschella, dear friends of the Plowman Family

Lillian Foucart, Member

Jan and Sam Urick, Cousins of Candy Foucart

Eileen Trihoulis, Sister of Merle Anderson

Gary Wachter, Member

The Family of Ursula Wandel, Sister of Regina Baker

Doug Burkholder, Friend of Betsy Galliher

Heather Anderson, Member

Bert Fiske, Friend of Sue Snyder and Lin Snider

Dottie Titmas. Member

Florence Schell, Member

Jim Decker, Friend of Pastor Phil

Camden Plog, Member

The Family of Michael Wachter, son of Gary and Kay Wachter

Charlotte Jones. Member

Donald Lupyan, Extended family of Hope Donati

Dick Murphy, Friend of Ed Chaney

How our Prayer List Works:

You may call into the Parish Office (301-845-4600) or email the Office Administrator (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org). When a prayer list request is added, the request will stay on the list for three consecutive weeks. First week it will be noted in **Super Bold**, the second week it will be noted in **Bold**, and then the third week it will be noted in regular text. Then the request will be removed from the prayer list unless you specifically ask for your request to remain on the prayer list until otherwise noted by you. The power of prayer is amazing! "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." **Matthew 18:20**

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

+Admiral Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy, niece to Linwood Snider
+Zachary Williams, U.S. Airforce, grandson of Jim & Dottie Titmas
+U.S. Navy Corpsman Matthew Kasik, grandson of Sam Purswell
+Dan Beck, Captain., U.S. Army, son of Pastor Phil & Susan Beck
+Carlin Rabie, U.S. Navy, Son-in-law of Marcia & Raj Gupta
+Eric Fong Sam, U.S. Army, friend of Mary Ann Ferguson
+Leo Tanja, U.S. Airforce, nephew of Mary Ann Ferguson's sister in

law

Do you have need for prayer?

Do you know someone else who has need for prayer?

If so, please know that we have a prayer team at

St. Paul's that is ready to help.

Simply contact the Church Office.

All requests are confidential.

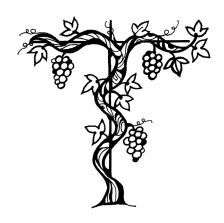
Please remember all the names on our prayer list, and especially those that are **bold.

They have a specific current need for Christian love and support.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

High eternal Trinity! Love! We are trees of death, and you are the tree of life. What a wonder, in your light to see ourselves, your creature, as a pure tree, a tree you drew out of yourself. You planted it and gave it branches: the soul's powers of memory, understanding, and will. O tree set in such purity by the One who planted you! Once we have been engrafted into you, the branches you gave our tree begin to produce their fruit. Our memory is filled with the continual recollection of your blessings. Our understanding gazes into you to know perfectly your truth. And our will chooses to love and to follow what our understanding has seen and known. You made us into trees of life again, by engrafting yourself, life, into us. You brought forth fruits for us: the fire of love, light, and ready obedience. —Catherine of Siena

[Catherine of Siena, The Prayers of Catherine of Siena, ed. Suzanne Noffke, O.P. (New York: Paulist, 1983), 147, 149, 150, 151.]



OFFERINGS

We are so blessed and grateful for your continued offerings during these unprecedented times. It is only with your support we can maintain the everyday activities of the church and our work in the community.

Please consider mailing your offering to the church or if you have access to the website, there is an online giving option as well.

https://www.saintpaulslutheranchurch.org/give/

LAST WEEK'S OFFERINGS:

Current Fund Weekly Need: \$3,145.00

Property Renovation Loan Fund Need: \$360.00

Electronic/Mail-ins Income April 14, 2024:

Weekly Contributions: \$ 985.46 Property Loan Fund: \$ 255.00 Total: \$1.240.46

In Worship Offerings

Weekly Contributions: \$1,286.00
Property Loan Fund: \$350.00
Total: \$1,636.00

ATTENDANCE: April 21, 2024

In person: 54 Virtual: 18

This Week at St Paul's

Sunday, April 28th

Worship (Livestream) 9:00am

Fifth Sunday of Easter Blessing of the Quilts

Celebration of Lay Ministry 3:00pm

Monday, April 29th

FEC 8am-5pm

Tuesday, April 30th

FHS 9am-3pm

Wednesday, May 1st

FEC 8am-5pm

Thursday, May 2nd

FHS 9am-3pm

Sunday, May 5th

Worship (Livestream) 9:00am

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Ministry Sunday 10am

*****IMPORTANT****

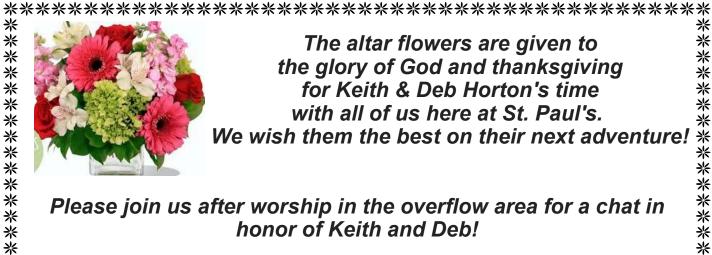
For those without Facebook please tune into our YouTube channel for live streams of last week's service. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-byiSq11I34 April 21, 2024

Please look for future notices regarding live streaming and YouTube videos at

St. Paul's Official YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSP6I9JEpgsBUXlow117 -Q

****IMPORTANT NOTE****

"The choir, in conjunction with the Pastor and the Worship & Arts committee, requests that henceforth no applause should be made following any anthem or solo, as these are not performances but rather are gifts to God; silence is our appreciation to God for these gifts so provided."



********** The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and thanksgiving for Keith & Deb Horton's time with all of us here at St. Paul's. We wish them the best on their next adventure!

Please join us after worship in the overflow area for a chat in honor of Keith and Deb!

To our dear friends, Deb and Keith Horton,

As you embark on this new journey, we gather to offer our blessings, prayers, and a heartfelt farewell. Your unwavering faith, devotion, and dedication to St. Paul's, your church family and our community have been a source of inspiration to us all. We are grateful for the times we have shared each other's joys and sorrows, we have lightened each other's heavy loads, together we have laughed and cried, together we have worshiped and praised God, together we have lived, we are grateful for the guidance and wisdom you have shared. This message is for you to know that, even as you venture forth on your new path, you remain in our thoughts and prayers. This is a celebration of your journey, a reminder that change is an opportunity for growth and renewal, and an invitation to embrace the exciting adventures that lie ahead. We look forward to hearing about all of your new endeavors! We trust that God will go before you and your family and will richly bless you as you embark upon this new chapter in your lives. You will be greatly missed!

With much love, Your Saint Paul's Family

> Isaiah 45:2a states: "I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight.



Strawberry Festival
May 18, 2024
is quickly approaching!

Strawberry Festival

We need your help to make this year's Festival a success. Please consider donating your time and talents. There's something for everyone, from setting up, to clean up and everything in between! Please see Marcia Gupta to sign up or contact her through the Parish Office and keep an eye out in the bulletin and weekly emails for more details!

Consider signing up for one of the options below:

Welcome Tent, Roasted Nuts Quilt Tent, Set Up Food Tent, Take Down, Bake Table, Runners, Plant Sale Strawberry Shortcake Tent, DUNK TANK!

Bakers be ready to fire up those ovens! We will need shortcakes and goodies for the bake sale table!



Grief Share is a unique faith based support group which not only offers healing and comfort, but provides participants with tools to use and they move through their personal grief journey.

13 Week Sessions starting Tuesday, May 7th 7-9pm at Keysville Lutheran Church

Leaders: Carol Baldwin and Pastor Cathy Feil Register by email at klckemar@gmail.com or phone/text 410-259-9816

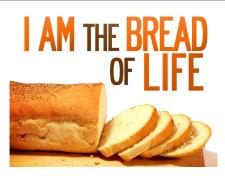


The Year Round Stocking Stuffer Project

April is almost over!

We need individual toothbrushes, from toddler size to adult size, and toothpaste!

There is a box wrapped with Christmas paper in the overflow area where you can drop off your donations. You always have the option for a financial donation as well. Please see Kay for more details.



I hope you all have been enjoying the return of bread to communion. So far the communion preparers have been graciously providing it, but we could use a couple of bakers (or buyers) as an alternative some weeks. If you'd be willing to help in this way, please give me your name so I can create a list for when it is needed.

Also, if anyone is moved to help with communion preparation, please let me know so that we can get you trained and on the rotation. With communion happening weekly we could use some new willing helpers!

Candy Foucart, Communion Coordinator



Would you like to schedule a date to sponsor Altar flowers?

Please contact Patty Rimel through the Parish Office if
you would like to arrange a date to offer flowers.

Are you called to serve?

If you would like to serve St. Paul's congregation by creating a welcoming environment and setting the tone for their worship experience, please consider joining our Usher team. We would love to have you share in this ministry. To sign up, contact Kate Stottlemyer through the Parish Office.





The Red Cross and St. Paul's continue to partner in 2024 to bring a blood drive into our community. This will be our first drive of the year! *May 31st!* Please consider making your appointment today, your donation is very much needed!

See the Weekly email for the link to sign up or call the Parish Office for assistance.

Donations for *Glade Valley Food Bank* are always accepted!

UPDATED ITEMS OF NEED ARE:

cereal, boxed crackers, tuna, spaghetti sauce and peanut butter.

Please bring them to the donation bin on the side of Town Hall, or you can put them in the basket by the side door and we will get them to the food bank for you!



<u>Staff</u>

Minister–202-497-0584 (pastor@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)	Pastor Phil Beck
Youth Coordinator-240-315-5030 (youthandfamily@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org)	
Office Administrator- 301-845-4600 (officeadministrator@saintpaulslutheranchurch.org).	Joann Valainis
Music Coordinator	Nancy Cochran
Flower Coordinator	Patty Rimel
Administration/Purchasing	Ed Chaney
Sexton	Larry Beard
Stephen Ministry	Linda Yopp
Property Coordinator	Tom Waters
Financial Secretary	Troy Keeney
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