

THEY
GAVE HIM
A PIECE OF
BROILED
FISH,
AND
HE ATE
IN THEIR
PRESENCE

LUKE 24:42-43

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 185 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex. Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms.

The 10:30 AM Liturgy is live streamed. Please be aware that conversations are all audible to those viewing from home.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Face masks are required inside,

Kindly sign in at the door through which you entered.

Please take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

Offerings:

Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org

While in the Nave:

***Please wear your mask.** Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family.*

We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew.

Communion Procedure:

- *Ushers will direct you. The pulpit side (left) of the nave communes first followed by the font side (right).*
- *Wearing your face mask, come to the chancel step taking your place at one of the five positions marked on the chancel floor with a green cross.*
- *Your entire household may gather at a position marked by the green cross.*
- *Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host.*
- *Please do not reach out to take the Host from the minister.*
- *Once the minister has moved to the next group, then remove your mask, receive the host, replace your mask and return to your pew by the closest side aisle. There is no need to hurry.*
- *We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).*

Our COVID-19 task force is assisting us as we remain open at St. Paul's. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Deacon Harold Sargeant, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 18, 2021
Holy Communion 8:00 and 10:30 AM

PRELUDE

Aria

Flor Peeters

Stand

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Let us pray,

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

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

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your
promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for
the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.**

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

**To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

*During the sprinkling with water, ELW #215 "Blessed be God Who Chose You",
will be sung 4 times; first by the Cantor, then Women, Men and All*



Bless-ed be God, who chose you in Christ.



Live in love as Christ loved us.

APOSTOLIC 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Sung by the cantor. People join at C

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

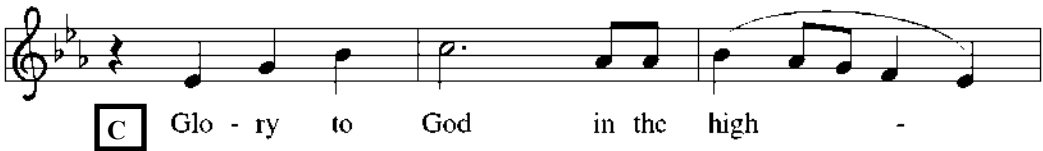
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



PRAAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . O God, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world, rescuing us from the hopelessness of death. Grant your faithful people a share in the joys that are eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

(back cover)

PSALM

Psalm 4

spoken responsively

¹ Answer me when I call, O God, defender | of my cause;*

you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and | hear my prayer.

² "You mortals, how long will you dishon- | or my glory;*

how long will you worship dumb idols and run af- | ter false gods?"

³ Know that the LORD does wonders | for the faithful;*

when I call upon the LORD, | he will hear me.

⁴ Tremble, then, and | do not sin;*

Speak to your heart in silence up- | on your bed.

- ⁵ Offer the appointed | sacrifices,*
and put your trust | in the LORD.
- ⁶ Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see | better times!"*
Lift up the light of your countenance upon | us, O LORD.
- ⁷ You have put gladness | in my heart,*
more than when grain and wine and | oil increase.
- ⁸ **I lie down in peace; at once I | fall asleep;***
for only you, LORD, make me | dwell in safety.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-4b

(back cover)

The Holy Gospel according to **St. Luke.** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Reep

Stand

APOSTLE'S 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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before
God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Living God, open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the we
embody repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, heal your creation where it is in need of restoration (*local concerns for
creation may be named*). Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable
home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all, many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ. Give your lovingkindness to national, state, and local leaders. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and grant them health and wholeness (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, you have given us such love that we should be called your children. Reveal yourself to us so that we become more and more like you in our mutual love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all times and ages, we thank you for the lives of those most dear to us, especially those who rest in you. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

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

DIALOGUE

Sung by Pastor/congregation

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE *The preface appropriate to the day is sung.*

SANCTUS *Sung by cantor. Congregation joins at* C

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. C Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,

and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

THE 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**

FRACTION RITE

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

AGNUS DEI *Sung by cantor*

***Sit** The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.*

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

COMMUNION CANTICLE *Congregation sings refrain Cantor sings stanzas*

Refrain

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

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

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

REFRAIN

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

REFRAIN

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Amen

REFRAIN

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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. **Amen**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Bless you now and forever. **Amen**

RECESSIONAL HYMN *With High Delight (LBW 140) stanza 1*



1 With high de-light let us u-nite In songs of sweet ju-bi-
la-tion. You pure in heart, each take your part, Sing Je-sus Christ,
our sal-va-tion. To set us free for-ev-er, he Is ris'n. and
sends to all earth's ends Good news to save ev-'ry na-tion.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

He is Risen, indeed. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur

Théodore Salomé

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*Please be respectful of distancing and personal space as you leave.
Feel free to gather outside for conversation.
Please take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.*

In our prayers we remember...

Dante Fuligini, Alyuson Bucks, Courtney & Aaron Snell, Morgan Lanzalotti, Nancy Darr, Ray Manus, Sandy Dickensheets, Teresa Rohrbaugh, Isaiah King, Delores Sergent, Sandra Farcht, Wayne Wagner, Jannette Guetersloh, Oonagh Newman, Jenny Zimmerman, Deborah Fulton, Reid Weinbrom, Darrell Kopp, Shawn Sunday, Mike Johnston, Betty Mehring, Drew Herdson, David List, Kristine Gross, and Porter Stacey

Food Pantry—April

Items needed: Pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, canned or boxed potatoes, stuffing mix, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles.

Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.



Flowers This Week

The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in loving memory of Sylvia Little by the Little Family

Altar Flowers will once again be gracing our worship space now that Lent has passed. The Springettsbury Hallway bulletin board has the sign-up sheet to sponsor flowers for available dates for the year. Many Sundays are still available! Cost is \$30 per vase.

This Week at St. Paul's April 18-25

Church office open 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Mn—Thurs, 7:30 a.m.—12 noon Fri

Sunday, April 18

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
6:30 PM AA meeting—Community Rm

Monday, April 19

6:00 PM Mpuguso Meeting—Good Shepherd Rm
7:00 PM Finance Committee—ZOOM
7:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting— ZOOM

Tuesday, April 20

9:30 AM Food Pantry

Wednesday, April 21

10:30 AM Bible Study—Christ Hall

Thursday, April 22

9:00 AM Pantry Delivery

Sunday, April 25

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm



We extend a hearty welcome to Jeremy Zuck, our guest organist. Jeremy is a talented musician. We appreciate him leading us in our liturgy and hymns this morning. And we thank Emily Reep (8:00 AM) and Carolyn Kapoun (10:30 AM) for serving as cantor.

Wednesday Bible Study

The Book of Acts

Wednesday Bible Study is held at 10:30 AM in Christ Hall. During the season of Easter the first reading each Sunday is from the book of Acts. We will spend a portion of our time together gaining greater insight into the book of Acts while still spending time reflecting on the Easter gospel readings. The Acts of the Apostles is a continuation of the narrative of the Gospel according to Luke. The book of Acts can be divided into two large portions. The first portion centers on Peter and deals with the early church in Jerusalem in the days following the resurrection of Jesus. The second portion centers on Paul and deals with his three missionary journeys and the expansion of the message of Christ crucified, raised and ascended. These readings direct our Sunday worship during this joyous season of Easter with a dual focus on the good news that God has raised Jesus from death to life and in our missionary effort to tell and share the good news with others here and around the world. Please bring your Bible and join us!

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“Binge watch” was not in my vocabulary until last year. It was just about this time when everything was shut down and we were sheltering in place that I learned about binge watching things through the technology of TV on demand. Teaching a parent about this critical part of pop-culture brought delight to one middle school boy and one university woman. And because we were stuck at home, “binge watch” filled hours during those early days of the pandemic.

But now, now that time has passed, now that governmental restrictions are lifting, now that things are opening up a bit, now that vaccines are available, now that warmer weather is returning; “Binge watch” has been replaced with a more regulated calculated viewing of a favorite TV series. “Binge watch” has been superseded, replaced, with something more along the lines of “episodic viewing” where we watch one episode at a time. It is a rather slow methodical way to crawl through a series rather than the leaping through them when we had time to “Binge watch.”

If someone within the household decided to move on in the days of binge watching, I would be so lost and so far behind that abandoning the show became my default setting. But now in these days where we view one episode at a time, well if I miss one, it doesn’t take too much time to catch up.

Both the reading from Acts and the gospel from Luke seem to have a member of the household advance the story, watch the next episode, without the rest of us. In Acts we have Peter talking about an event that happened in the previous episode; a man lame from birth, a man who begged at the temple gate, was healed, restored, set free, released from the infirmity that held him captive. And in Luke we have the risen Jesus interrupting the conversation of his gathered followers. They had in the previous episode heard from Cleopas and his friend how the risen Christ appeared to them, walked with them on the Emmaus Road, talked with them about Moses and the prophets, and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread when their eyes were opened and they saw Jesus with them before he vanished from their sight.

Missing an episode doesn’t change the plot, but it does call upon the viewer to work harder, engage earnestly to make sense out of the current action, dialogue, drama.

Peter wants us to know that a man has been released from what had held him, controlled him, and in many ways diminished him from communal life. The man went from crawling to leaping by the power of God. Through Christ Jesus he was given perfect health in the presence of everyone who was gathered that day at the temple as a way to exhibit faith. Faith that would lead those first followers to tell others what they had seen and heard *“so that times of refreshment may come from the Lord.”* Peter is still relatively new to all of this speaking publicly about God and what God has done through Christ Jesus. Peter doesn’t want any of them to continue to act in ignorance. He wants them to repent, turn around, be released from what has held them captive so that they can embrace a new way of life and living. Turn to God so that your sins are wiped out. Be renewed, refreshed, restored, live at peace.

The Risen Jesus interrupts the conversation taking place among his followers. They were talking about what Cleopas and his friend had reported when they arrived back from Emmaus, out of breath, filled with hope, telling others what they had heard and that they had seen the risen Lord. And now in the midst of a room palpable with their unbelief, with fear and doubt permeating the scene, Jesus interrupts their

conversation and ushers them one more time from fear and doubt. He guides them toward confidence, in what had been told them by the Emmaus walkers. And Jesus draws them toward a new found perceptive-faith informed by rereading scripture, and making sense of recent events as life giving.

Take heart friends, even in the presence of the Risen Jesus there is disbelief; those early followers reacted with fear and questioning about the One who was in their midst. And while the eyes of Cleopas and his friend were opened while at the Emmaus Café, now the minds of all those gathered were opened to understand the scriptures. Now they would know that through Christ repentance and forgiveness is to be proclaimed. And now, not just the women at the tomb, or Cleopas and his friend, but all of the followers gathered are to be witnesses of these things.

Gathered this morning behind closed doors with our own fears and doubts the Risen Christ comes among us releasing us from what holds us, releasing us from what controls us, and in many ways what diminishes communal life for us. The powerful Word of God releases us so that we move from crawling to leaping, so that we move from fear and doubt, to trust and belief. We are released, opening a way, a reordering of life, built on transformed perceptions and understandings from being in Christ's presence. In faith we tell others what we have seen and heard "*so that times of refreshment may come*" for all people. We are witnesses of these things.

We are living during days where people need a time of refreshment. The pandemic has permeated all aspects of life. It has certainly impacted people differently. But I think that all people are in need of a time of refreshment. People need release from what holds them and they need new perceptions about life and living. We are witnesses of God's message of forgiveness and hope.

Most of us are more likely to bear witness to a favorite TV show that we have binge watched or methodically enjoyed episode at a time than to share "these things" that have been revealed to us this morning. Perhaps our own fears and doubts make it easier to bear witness to a great movie, a book we would recommend to a friend, an accomplishment we would share with a coworker, a highlight from a sports team whose jerseys comprise our wardrobe. But to witness to "these things" which bring release from what holds us captive, that allows for a reordering of life, that transforms perceptions and understandings through God's word of grace, love, peace, patience may prove to be as challenging for us as it was for those first followers. And yet both Peter at the temple in Jerusalem and the Risen Christ gathered with his followers call upon us to be witnesses of "these things" the events surrounding the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, which make possible a lame man leaping and startled terrified disciples believing.

Witnesses are not limited to the women at the tomb on that Easter morning. Witnesses are not limited to Cleopas and his friend at Emmaus on that Easter evening. Witnesses are not limited to the disciples to whom Jesus spoke peace on that Easter night. Witnesses are not limited to Peter and the man restored to perfect health in Jerusalem. Witnesses are made through the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. You and I are witnesses of these things so that a time of refreshment may come for all people. Such refreshment comes from the presence of the Lord. Please don't sit back and think that you can binge watch Christian witness, or methodically watch others engage in Easter's calling. Proclaiming "these things" wipe out sin bringing release so that a time of refreshment may come giving everyone a new day. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Psalm 4**SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7**

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things."