

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 188 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Offerings Offerings are received during the liturgy. They are presented along with gifts of bread and wine at the altar. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org or use the OR Code provided.

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

An AED/Defibrillator unit is located in the Good Shepherd room. It is placed on the wall left side of the Springettsbury door exit.

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors.



The liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Quiet activities are also available in the Narthex for infant through preschool children to use with an adult.

Parents, please do accompany your child to the restroom during the liturgy and wait with them. This is a way for us to practice good safety protocol within our building.

The Resurrection of Our Lord **Easter Sunday** Sunday, March 31, 2024 Holy Communion 9:15AM

PRELUDE

Partita on "Christ is Arisen"

Joel Martinson

Stand

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!



www.stpaulsyork.org

Lutheran Church in York, PA - St. Paul's Lutheran...



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.

KYRIE







PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. . . .O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING

Acts 10:34–43

(back cover)

PSALM Psalm 118:1-2, 15-24 accompanied by Handbell Choir Setting by H. Hopson



The refrain is sung by the Choir and then repeated by all. 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Stand VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 16:1-8 (back cover)

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark *At the conclusion of the Gospel*. The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Pastor Reep

Sit SERMON

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)





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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 INTERCESSION

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.

Holy God, we pray for the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, we pray for our sister congregation, Mpuguso Lutheran Church, Tukuyu, Tanzania. Give them joy in their serving and strengthen their witness to you and the resurrection. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, we pray for this community of faith (*name/s may be spoken here*) and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. 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 your Son, Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living 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.*

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Chancel Choir The Lord is Risen Indeed Craig Phillips



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE Sung by Pastor and congregation



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

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his 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:



SANCTUS

THANKSGIVING

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness;

you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.

We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us.

We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all. We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen,

the people of your promise:

the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land,

the memory of the fathers, the homecoming from exile,

and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.

In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son, who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the incarnation of your Son: his human birth and the covenant he made with us.

We remember the sacrifice of his life:

his eating with outcasts and sinners, and his acceptance of death.

But chiefly on this day we remember his rising from the tomb,

his ascension to the seat of power,

and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit.

We cry out for the resurrection of our lives, when Christ will come again in beauty and power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,

that we and all who share in this bread and cup may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven, and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

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

AGNUS DEI



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

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Our Communion is "open" to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist. We receive communion by intinction today.

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle.
- 2. The Pastor will give the host, communicant dips the host in the chalice
- 3. Return to your pew using the side aisle.

COMMUNION CANTICLE

This is the Feast



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. All powerful and ever-living God, in the Eucharist we celebrate the Mystery of Faith. By this Easter Sacrament, renew in us the gift of faith in the New Life it promises. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. **Amen**

BLESSING

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

HYMN Thine is the Glory (ELW 376) next page

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!	He is Risen, indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.	Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Symphony V Toccata

Charles-Marie Widor

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The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God in memory of Josephine M. Cushner, John Cushner, M.D. and Mary R. Maxwell by Joanne Cushner Debes and Family

Easter Musicians

Harrison Palmer	Primo Piano, Trumpet		
James Palmer	Secondo Piano, Saxophone		
Maggie Dickerson	Saxophone		

A special thank-you is extended to all cantors who served during Holy Week and Easter Services.

Serving the Lord with Gladness

DATE		Assisting Minister	Crucifer		Comm. Assist	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild	Acolyte
3/31	9:15 AM			Patty Snyder		Moore, Angie	3L - All Call		Isabella Lehr, Paula Herd- son

Thine Is the Glory



Easter Day B, 2024

The thing about a mission trip is that there are lots of things that you don't expect, even before you make your departure. Travel plans get rearranged. Group dynamics change as the list of would be participants' settles in forming a final count. Dietary needs are identified but fulfilling them becomes critical knowing people need to eat! Cultural approaches to something as basic as time becomes stressful. In our situation preparing for a group of twenty-four of us to travel to Tanzania and the Konde Diocese and engage with our sister congregation Mpuguso Lutheran Church in Tukuyu, Bishop Geoffrey and his staff at the Konde office project that June 10 is a long way off so there is plenty of time to work out the specifics of our time together and the things that we need to do and see and experience. I on the other hand am concerned that summer and fall planning for our life together at St. Paul's remains sketchy at best. My desire is that the mission trip and the details associated with it are not hurried or rushed or left incomplete because others don't share my concerns. So you might suspect I have lots of questions about how all of this is going to come together.

The women going to the tomb were on a mission to properly complete the burial custom for their beloved friend Jesus. Things days before were hurried, because of the Holy Day, rushed because Jesus, the itinerant teacher and rabble rouser didn't matter much to the Roman authorities or to the established religious community. The custom of anointing with spices remained unfinished. Now that the sun had risen, and the Sabbath was over, and their work within the confines of the home was complete, they were off to complete work that was hurriedly concluded but wasn't done properly, wasn't really complete according to custom.

The question occupying their thoughts regarded the stone covering the tomb, its weight, and how it could be removed in order for them to do what needed to be done. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb? When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back." The phrase "looked up" has been used before to alert humankind to the working of God, and God bringing hope out of hopeless situations.

Noah looked up; saw the bow in the sky, hope for him, and his family and for the earth.

Abraham looked up saw three visitors coming to his tent, announcing an heir, hope in the midst of barrenness for him and Sarah.

Isaac looked up saw the camels and the approaching travelers and Rebekah, hope for a wife and for a future for God's people.

Rebekah looked up saw Isaac, and the next line in the Biblical story, they became husband and wife, hope for the future of Israel.

Israelites in the wilderness looked up saw the bronze serpent, experienced healing, hope for their journey as they pressed toward a land flowing with milk and honey.

Shepherds looked up saw the angels and heard them singing of peace for all people, hope for the world.

The Magi looked up saw the star at its rising, hope for the birth of a much needed new born and different kind of king.

Jesus looked up taking loaves and fishes, blessing, braking and giving, providing food for thousands, hope for the hungry.

Saul, on the Damascus road looked up saw the risen Christ, hope for the persecuted church.

Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome looked up saw that the stone was rolled back, hope for them to complete that which was unfinished.

"And when they looked up, they saw that the stone which was very large had already been rolled back," hopeful now that they could complete what was left undone. The Lord has acted! But not only had the weight of the stone been lifted, they heard the words of God's messenger "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."

The stone rolled away. Christ raised up. Greetings from God's messenger announcing hope for them and for all people. Hope for the disciples who fell away. Hope for Peter who denied him 3 times. Hope, for the future as God's work with them is not finished. Hope for us, as God's work of forgiveness, reconciliation, peace, mercy and love is not finished.

On this Easter Day we hear words of forgiveness, hope and life. They may not be words that we experience often. They may not even be things that we deserve. But on this day the Lord has acted. God grants to us more than we can imagine or for which we can hope. In bread and wine he gives us himself, forgiving us, welcoming us, renewing us, and calling us to look up. To recognize what he has already done, to recognize what he is doing with and among us, and to recognize what he promises yet to do. God's message is a message of hope and salvation. Not for some, or for a special few, but for all people. This message of hope and salvation may not be what you expect from God, the creator of the universe, from the one who took on human flesh and suffered and died for humanity, but this is what God does for you, for me, for the sake of the world. God gives hope. God removes what weighs us down and perplexes us and causes us to think that there isn't a way forward. Looking up our forebears in faith recognize and experience the living God in their midst making a way forward.

The question occupying our thoughts may not have to do with rolling away a very heavy stone. But we do wrestle with questions regarding things that weigh us down and how they could be removed in order for us to have a future, do what needs doing, for us to live in hope rather than the crushing weight of despair.

We come here this morning with our own troubling questions. They may have little to do with rolling away a stone, but they may involve huge obstacles, things that keep us awake at night, burden us, and preclude us from being the people that God would have us be. The good news is that you are not alone. God is at work. God remains faithful. God continues to restore and renew, and come to our aid, yours and mine. On this day the Lord has acted. God though Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit brings hope. Such hope comes in unexpected ways. But then that was true for: Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, the Israelites in the wilderness, shepherds on the Bethlehem hillside, the Magi bringing gifts of gold, frankincense, any myrrh, the Apostle Paul on the Damascus road, and Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome at the Easter tomb. This morning look up and recognize the Word of God with you, around you, for you. God's Word of life, Jesus, comes bringing hope. Hope because he goes ahead of us preparing a way, making a way, in ways, (*pause*) that are often unexpected! Amen.



Dedicated to the Glory of God . . .

Mike & Becky Bingham Victor Fields Nicki & Scott Herdson Tina Llorente Norma Spencer Martina Uffelman Gary & Pat Van Nattan

In Honor of . . .

My Children and Grandchildren by Ann Anstadt Our Family by Mike and Becky Bingham My grandchildren, Alexis & Tom Heistand and Daniel, Ryan & Brynn Butler by June Heistand Donald Heistand by Mark Heistand and Family Anna, Drew, & Paula Herdson by Nicki & Scott Herdson Our Family, Lindsay, Rob, Jana, Tyler, Robbie, Riley and Ma'sai by Earline & Frank Jones Our Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren by Harold & Donita Sargeant My Son & Daughter-in-law, Jake & Allison by Lois Ann Schroeder My Six Great Grandchildren by Norma Shue My Children and Grandchildren by Martina Uffelman

In Loving Memory Of ...

My husband, Henry Anstadt, by Ann Anstadt My husband, Bill and my parents Kay & Mel Goerls, and in-laws Katherine & Edwin Banta by Nancy Banta Margaret Barnes and Mildred, Blake, Glen, Ruth & Mark Moyer, Catherine Becker and Alice & Mike Vinik by Sammy & Kirsten Barnes Our Fathers, Dave Boyer and Ronald Becker by Deb & Larry Becker My husband, Curvin & my son Thomas Berkheimer by Janet Berkheimer Our Loved Ones by Mike and Becky Bingham Josephine M. Cushner, John J. Cushner, MD, and Mary R. Maxwell by Jo Anne Cushner Debes and Family by Joanne Cushner Debes and Family Paula Kassolis by Nicki & Scott Herdson Francis & Delores Ports, Kenneth & Ruth Hinkle, Sandra Hinkle, Dorinda Hinkle, and Susan Hohry by Ken Hinkle & Jennifer Ports Our Parents & Family members by Frank & Earline Jones Richard T. & Margie Martin, Michael T. Martin, Sandy & Dale Shellenberger, Wilfert & Viola Wildasin; James & Julia Martin by Tom Martin Loved ones, Clarence Nicolaysen, William Eisenring, Elise Harris, parents Meta & Herman Wacker and in-laws Ann & John Nicolaysen by Irmgard Nicolaysen Robert & Mary Reifsteck by Cheryl Reifsteck Our Parents by Norma & Ronald Riese My Mother, Thelma Nace, by Pat Rudacille Our Parents, Harold & Grace Sargeant, and Donald & Bertha Spencer and grandson, Dakota Walburn by Harold and Donita Sargeant My Husband, Gary Schroeder by Lois Ann Schroeder Gene R. & Neil Shue by Norma Shue My Husband Don, Son Alan; Parents, Chester & Laura Ely, and Lloyd G. & Helen Spencer; sisters Evelyn & Lois and friends Jean Williams, Audrey Houck & Peg Stauffer by Norma Spencer My Husband, John, Sr by Martina Uffelman Our Parents and the Stauffer Boys by the Weikerts

If you have sponsored Easter flowers you may take them home after the service. Thank you for helping to beautify our worship space.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ-he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

or Isaiah 25:6-9 [not printed]

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

or Acts 10:34-43 [see First Reading]

GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" 4When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. 5As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. 7But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." 8So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

or John 20:1-18 [not printed]

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Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31.

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