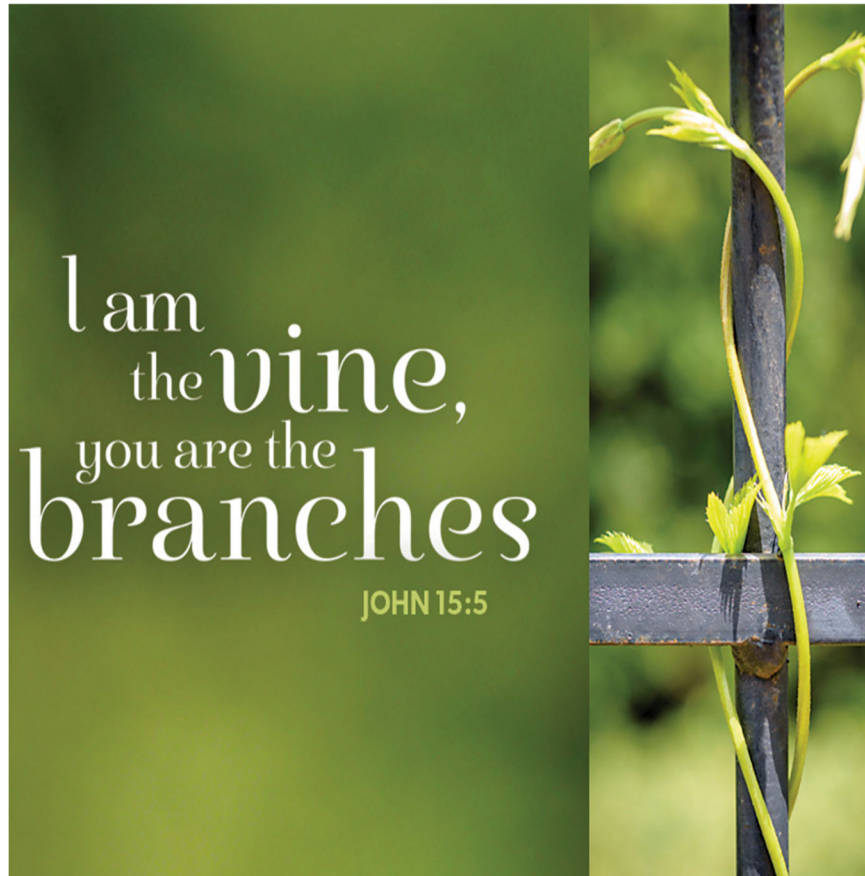


# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 28, 2024  
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday April 28, 2024**  
**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

+ *Please Stand*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude      Rebecca McClain**

“God of Grace & God of Glory”      Arr. Gilbert Martin

**Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**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** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Most merciful God,

**C We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors and ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us, and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

+

## Opening Hymn

# God of Grace & God of Glory #415

God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your pow'r;  
crown your ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us  
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days,

Cure your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
let us miss your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

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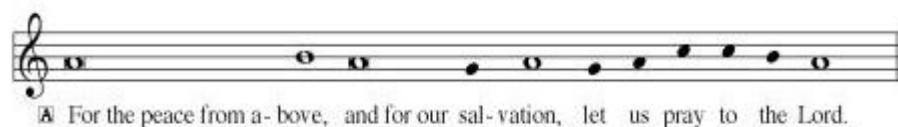
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## The Kyrie



⌘ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.    ⌘ Lord,    have mer - cy.



⌘ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



⌘ Lord,    have mer - cy.



⌘ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



⌘ Lord,    have mer - cy.



⌘ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.    ⌘ Lord,    have mer - cy.



⌘ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.    ⌘ A - men

## The Hymn of Praise

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

Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and  
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

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

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

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## The Prayer of The Day Birthday Recognitions & The Children's Sermon

## The First Lesson

## Acts 8:26-40

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## Choir Anthem

## The Chancel Choir

“As Tenderly As A Father”      John Shepherd

## The Second Lesson

## 1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**P The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.**

**C** Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

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



**The Sermon**

Rev. Peter J. Hartmann

**The Sermon Hymn**

**“Here I Am, Lord”**

"I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?"

***Refrain***

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

"I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?" ***Refrain***

"I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?" ***Refrain***



## The Apostles' Creed

- + I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **Amen**

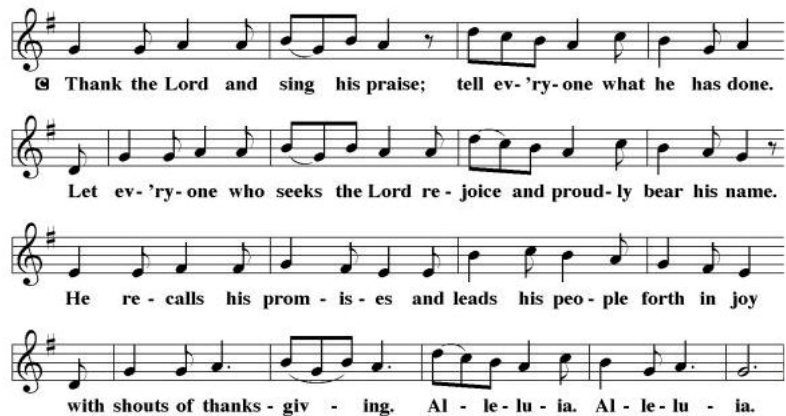
## The Prayers of The Church The Lord's Prayer

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Words of Institution & The Communion

- P** The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C**




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.

## Benediction

- P** The Lord Bless You & Keep You, The Lord Make His Face Shine on you and Be Gracious to You, The Lord Look Upon You with Favor, and Give You Peace.

**C**



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

The Closing Hymn

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“What A Friend We Have in Jesus” #439

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear--  
all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

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**P/C** Go In Peace! Serve The Lord! / **Thanks Be To God!**

**Postlude** “Symphony No. 1” William Boyce

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**Mothers' Day Tea**  
Sunday, May 12th  
After Each Service in Hoffner Hall

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**We Welcome You to  
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church...**

Whether you are a long time member, friend at St. Paul's, or here for the first time, we are glad you are with us in worship today! If you are in need of pastoral care, please give us a call. If you will be entering the hospital or preparing for any surgical procedures, please let the Pastor know so he can plan to visit and have prayer with you during this time. Thank you for checking the "prayer list" posted in the bulletin today and for helping us to keep this list current by notifying the office with any updates. All are welcome to partake in The Communion during the service. After The Consecration, come forward as able to receive the Blessing and The Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ and then return to your pew to complete the service.

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**We Remember in Our Prayers...**

Kevin Boatright, Ronnie & Delores Boatright, Angie Briggs, Florence Brown, Tom Brown, Jean Camp, Alice Ann Duggar, Frances Graff, Don Kennedy, Shirley Kennedy, Ann Lariscy, George Martin Sr., Joan Martin, Leonora Reid, Al Schunemann, Kay Sellman, Isabelle Sherouse, Zoe Shinall, Mary Sikes, Charlie Smith, Barbara & Tim Tyson, and Melissa Waller.

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**Current Budgetary Needs Each Sunday From 2024 Offerings**  
\$8,600.00

Current Offerings \$ 1,473.00 E-Giving \$ 282.98

**Worship Statistics Last Week In Person & At Home**

8:30 am - 34 11:00 am - 55 Facebook - 47



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**Our Worship Leaders & Staff...**

- Senior Pastor...** The Rev. Peter J. Hartmann
- Director of Music & CFO ...** Donald R. Martin, Jr.
- Senior Organist ...** Rebecca T. McClain
- Office Administrator ...** Fran Snipes
- “The Epistle” ...** Betsy Martin
- Facebook Live Broadcasting...** Lisa B. Martin
- Chancel Choir Soprano Section Leader ...** Melissa Flummerfelt
- Chancel Choir Bass Section Leader ...** Anthony Broadnax
- Pre-School Director ...** Gina Johnson
- Assistant Pre-School Director ...** Cynthia Thomas
- Parish Housekeeping ...** April Reilly

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**Our Lectors Today**

8:30 Lisa Gnann 11:00 Emma Levy

**April Altar Guild**

8:30 Becky Truluck & Kim Ambrose  
11:00 Faye Lettow & Sydney Oetgen

**Liturgical Service Cantors**

Melissa Flummerfelt, Carol Stemsrud & Emelia Levy

**Communion Assistants**

8:30 John & Sherill Martin  
11:00 Mike Hatfill & Richard Wolf

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**This Month the Women of the ELCA...  
Are Collecting Monetary Donations &  
Large Quantity Detergent for the Fresh Air Home at  
Tybee Island, Georgia.**