ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

April 20, 2025
10 AM

Welcome to Saint Paul!

We are happy to have you here!

How to know when to stand, sit, or speak

Whenever you see an asterisk (*) at a heading, you are invited to stand as you are able. You are not required to stand, so if, for health or emotional reasons you cannot or do not wish to stand, that is okay.
You are invited to speak the words printed in **bold type**.

We are an Open Communion Congregation

This means that any Christians who have received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism are invited to receive Holy Communion.

How to financially support us

Offerings can be made online at **stpaulpgm.org/give,** mailed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, PO Box 200, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, placed in the mail slot (outside door to Pastor Paul's office), or in the offering plate located in the lobby/narthex near the entrance of the sanctuary.

A note on Communion Wafers

To topple barriers that prevent participation in worship, we want to make it possible for individuals with Celiac Disease or gluten intolerant to be able to eat the Body of our Lord. Our default wafers are made by Parish Crossroads and are known as "Low Gluten Wafers" because they contain trace amounts of gluten. However, the wafers are tested at least once a year for how much gluten is in them. Since 2020, the wafers have routinely tested to contain 15ppm gluten or less (The US FDA defines most food products with 20ppm or less as "gluten free"). Use the QR Code and look for the link that gives the most recent test results.
If you still have concerns, we have some truly gluten-free wafers available upon request.

Gathering

The Gathering for worship began when you started readying yourself for worship.

Introduction to the Day

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Prelude

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.
A: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.
We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.
A: Amen.

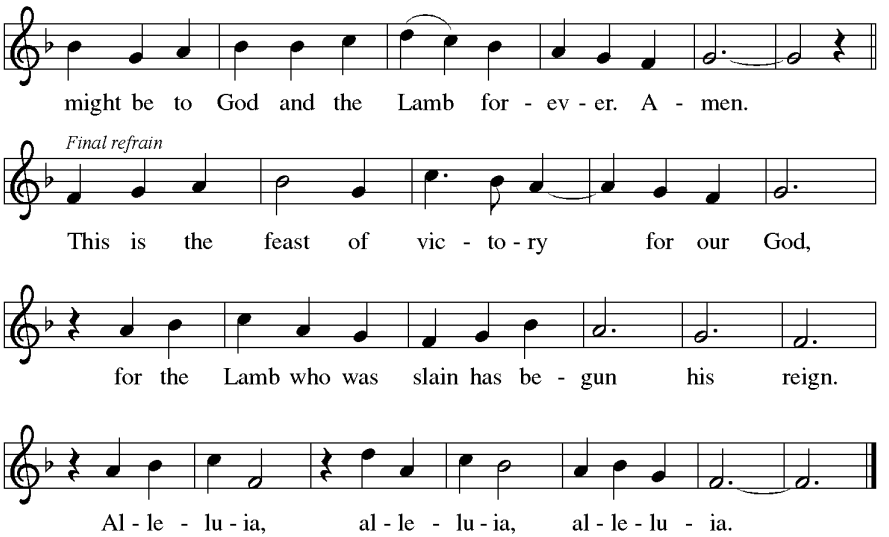
*Gathering Hymn: *"Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!!"* *(ELW 382)*

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: MORGENLIED, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

*GREETING

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

HYMN OF PRAISE



*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also, with you.**

P: 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, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **A: Amen.**

ANTHEM: "*Resurrection Victory*"

Word

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

At the end of the Gospel of Luke, Jesus commissions his disciples as witnesses to the whole world. Now Peter has been summoned to preach to a Gentile for the first time (Cornelius, a Roman centurion), and the barrier between Jews and the Gentiles will not simply be crossed, but eliminated.

[34] Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no
partiality, [35] but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is
acceptable to him. [36] You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching
peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. [37] That 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. [39] We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, [40] but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, [41] not 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. [42] He 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. [43] All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

R: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 118:1-2, 14-24 *(Sung to the tune All Saints New "LBW 183")*

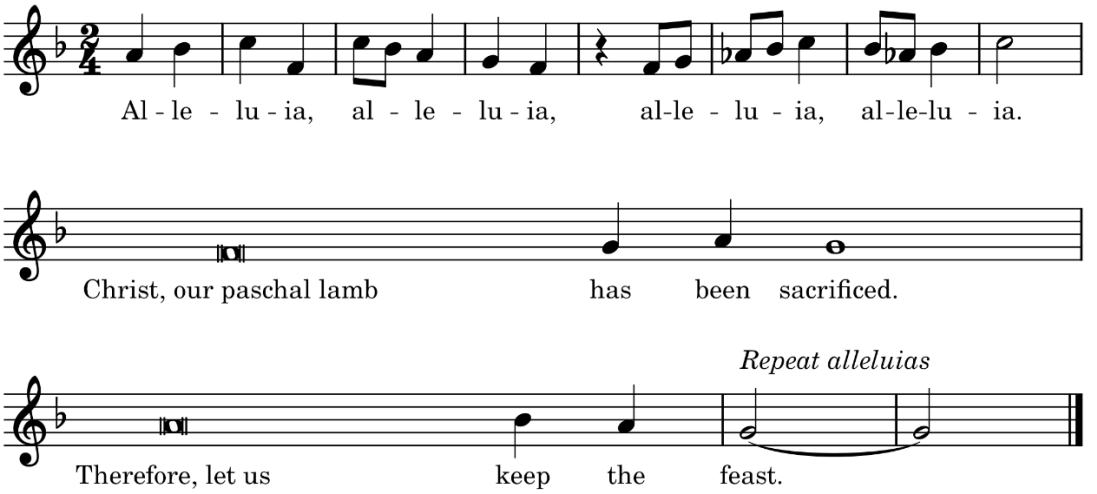
While this psalm fits well in the mouth of Christ, it is our song of triumph as well.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Some Christians in Corinth were teaching that faith in Jesus made one immortal, so that anyone in the community who died could not have been a true Christian. In opposition to this, Paul noted that several of the witnesses of the resurrection – true Christians by any definition – had already died. And to cap his argument, he brings in the example of Christ himself, and affirms resurrection, not immortality, as the hope of Christians.

19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have
died. 21 For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also
come through a human, 22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. 23 But
each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to
Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father,
after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign
until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is
death. R: The word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel Reading: Luke 24:1-12

In this story, as elsewhere in Luke's Gospel, women are remarkable for their courage and insight, but are discounted. His story of Easter continues with the appearance on the Road to Emmaus, and Jesus further appearance to all the disciples on Easter evening – we will hear those stories at other times. The "two men in dazzling clothes" who greet the women might well be Moses and Elijah, representing the law and the prophets, continuing their dress from the Transfiguration; they will appear again at Jesus's Ascension (Acts 1:10)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the sixteenth chapter. **A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

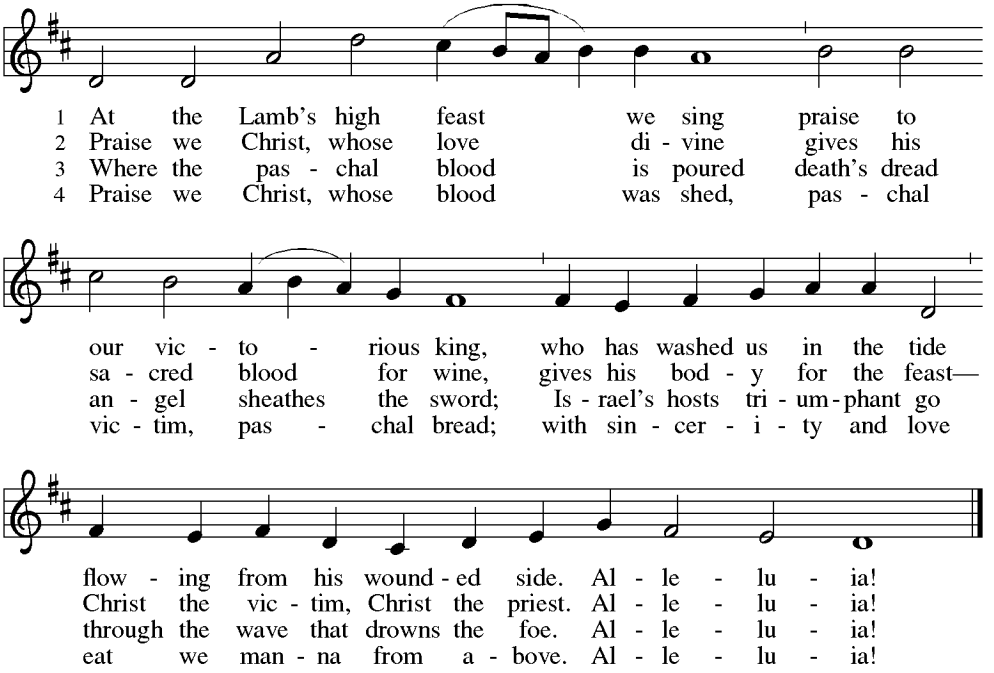
[1] On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] went to the tomb, taking the
spices that they had prepared. [2] They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, [3] but
when they went in they did not find the body. [4] While they were perplexed about this,
suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. [5] The women were terrified
and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for
the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. [6] Remember how he told you,
while he was still in Galilee, [7] that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of
sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." [8] Then they remembered his
words, [9] and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the
rest. [10] Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other
women with them who told this to the apostles. [11] But these words seemed to them an
idle tale, and they did not believe them. [12] But Peter got up and ran to the tomb;
stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home,
amazed at what had happened.

P: The gospel of the Lord. **A: Praise to you, O Christ**.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen. **A: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: *"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"* *(ELW 362)*



5 Mighty victim from the sky,
hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie;
you have conquered in the fight,
you have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
now no more the grave enthrall;
you have opened paradise,
and your saints in you shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
newborn souls in you to be.
Alleluia!

8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, your name we praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Latin hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–1868, alt.
Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

*Invitation to Baptism

*Nicene Creed

heav'n, And was in - car - nate by the Ho - ly Ghost of the vir - gin
Ma-ry, And was made man; And was cru-ci-fied al-so for us un-der Pon-tius
In tempo
Pi - late; He suf-fer'd and was bur - ied; And the third day he
rose a-gain ac - cord-ing to the Scrip-tures; And as - cend-ed in - to heav'n,
And sit-teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther; And He shall come a -
-gain, with glo-ry to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose
King-dom shall have no end. And I be-
-lieve in the Ho-ly Ghost, The Lord, and Giv-er of Life. Who pro-

*Prayers of Intercession

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

L: Kindle new life in your church. Encourage all who seek creative ways to share the good news of Christ's resurrection. Bless mission developers and new ministries (*local examples may be named*), that their work plant seeds that flourish. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.
L: Nourish new life in all of creation. Shower forests and grasslands, deserts, and mountains with life-giving rains. Grant us delight in your glory that shows forth in all that grows this season. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Empower new life among the nations. As you raised Jesus from the dead, bring new hope for peace and reconciliation in places of war and strife (*places or situations may be named*). Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Bring new hope among all who are in need, especially neighbors without homes or food, and those whose housing or food supply is at risk. Bring healing to all who are fearful, ill, or grieving (*especially*). God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: Awaken new life in this place. Open our hearts to ways you are calling us to be at work in the world and our community (*communities and neighborhoods may be named*). Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Trusting in the promises of the resurrection, we remember with thanksgiving our beloved dead. Sustain us with a living hope until we are reunited with them and all the saints at the heavenly banquet. God of grace,
A: hear our prayer.

L: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
A: Amen.

*Peace

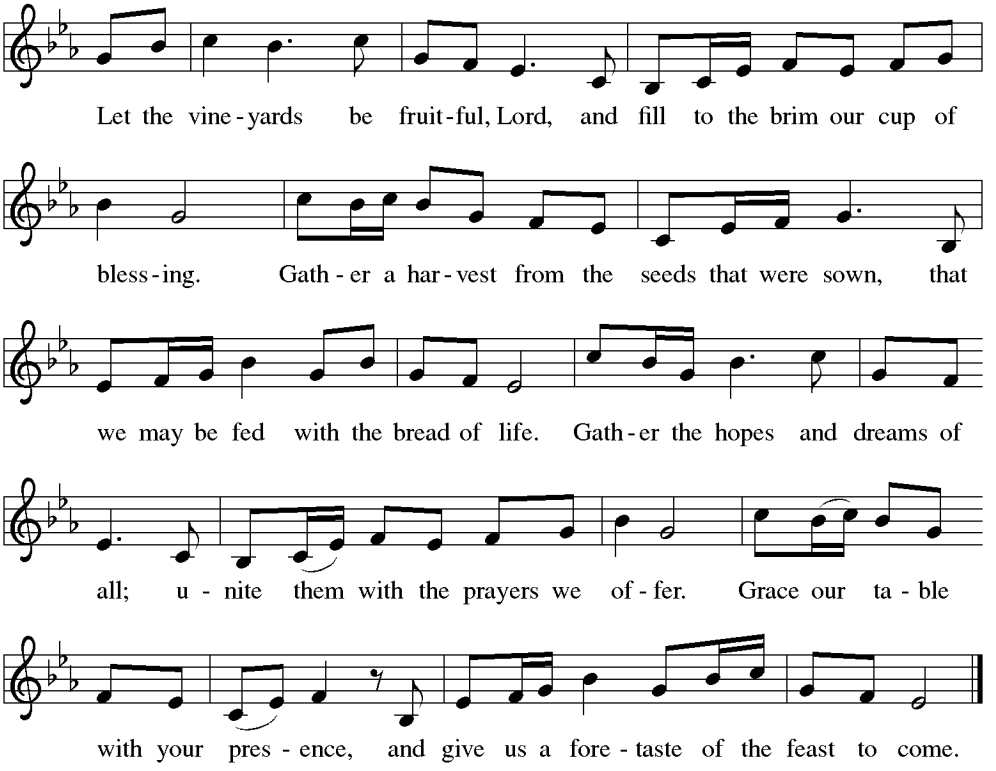
P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **A: And also with you.**

Meal

Offering

Musical Offering: *"At the Table of the Lord"* *(sung by the choir)*

***Offertory:** *"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"* *(ELW 184)*



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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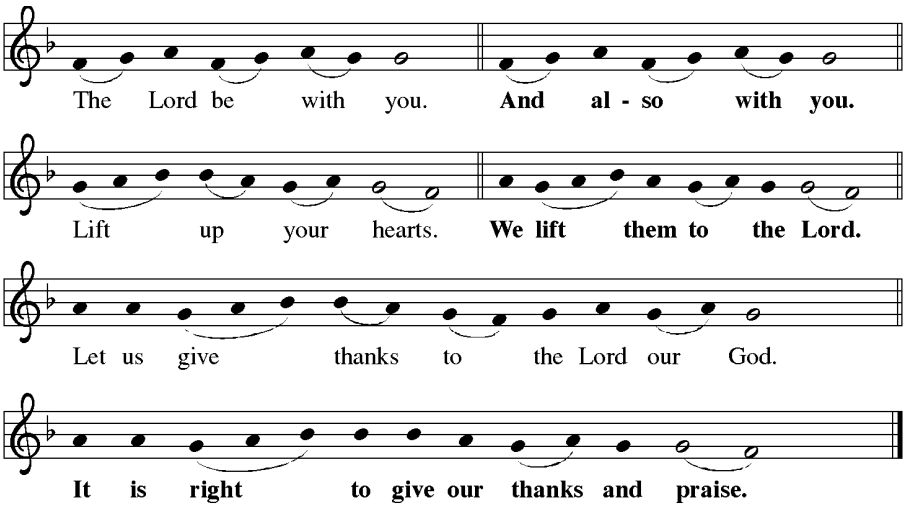
*Offering Prayer

L: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. **A: Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

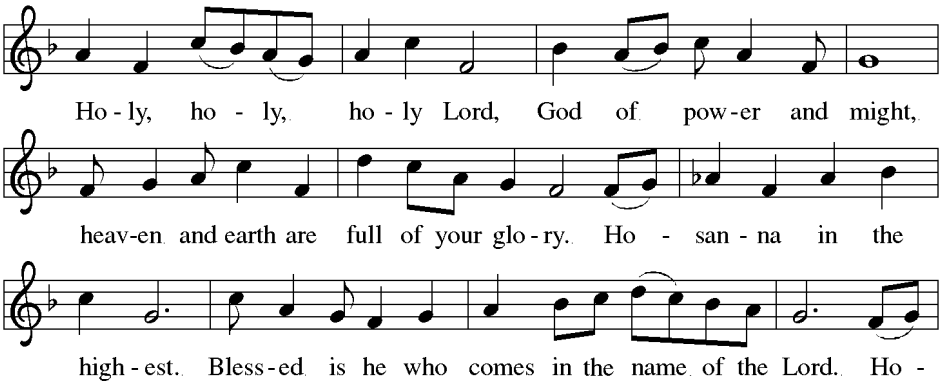
* DIALOGUE



*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS



*Thanksgiving at the Table

P: Holy, living, and loving God,
we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.
We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood,
for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery,
and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.
We give you thanks for Jesus
who, living among us,
healed the sick,
fed the hungry,
and with a love stronger than death,
gave his life for others.
In the night in which he was handed over,
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.
Through our remembrance we proclaim the mystery of our faith
A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
Remembering, therefore,
his life-giving death and glorious resurrection,
we await your promised life for all this dying world.
A: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup:
carry us in your arms from death to life,
that we may live as your chosen ones,
clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
A: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

A: Amen. Alleluia!

*Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into time of trial,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
forever and ever. Amen.

*Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

*Lamb of God

Communion

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **A: Amen.**

Communion Hymn: *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"* *(ELW 369)*

Text: attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.
Music: LLANFAIR, Robert Williams, 1781–1821

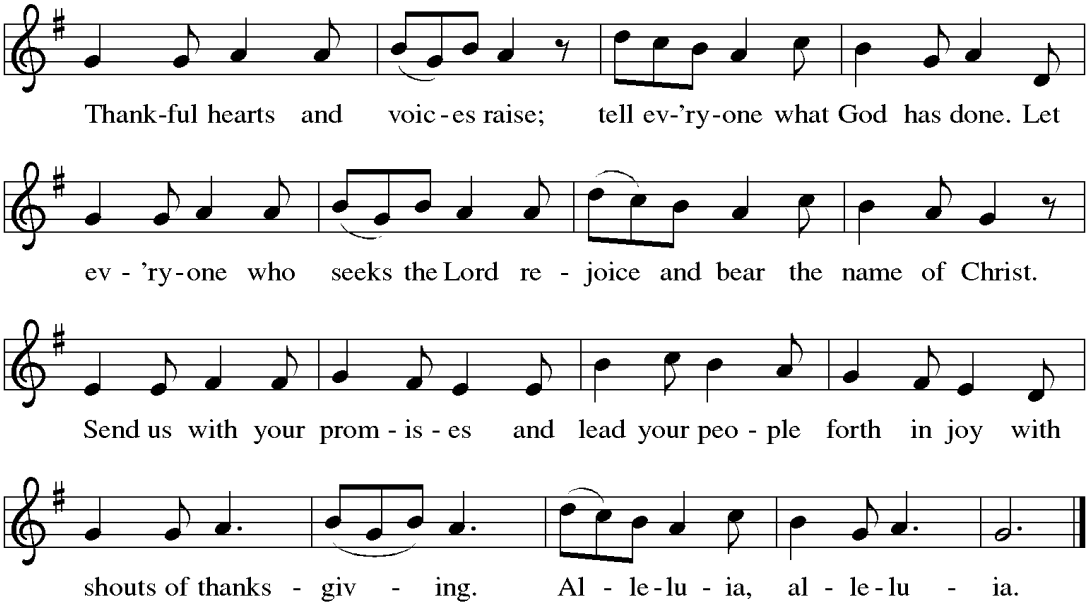
COMMUNION HYMN: *"Thine Is the Glory!"* *(ELW 376)*

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strength and keep you, body, mind, and soul, now and unto eternal life. **A: Amen**

*Post-Communion Canticle – *Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise* (ELW 207)



*Post-Communion Prayer

L: Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **A: Amen.**

Sending

*Sending of Communion

Announcements

You may be seated.

*Charge to the People

*Blessing

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. In the name of the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn: *"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"* *(ELW 365)*

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

Dismissal

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

A: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

A: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

The tulips decorating the sanctuary on Easter Sunday are given to the Glory of God in honor or memory of the following:

In memory of Ed and Helen Magnuson—*by Karen Magnuson*

In memory of Herb and Grace Williams—*by Roger Williams*

In honor of the musicians of St. Paul—*by Michelle McMullen*

In memory of my parents Chuck and Nancy—*by Michelle McMullen*

In memory of my parents—*by Paul Johnson*

In memory of my parents—*by Cinda Corl*

In memory of our parents—*by Joe and Delorse Homan*

In memory of our parents—*by Art and Ann Reede*

In memory of my parents Paul and June—*by Eleanor Bird*

In honor of Marilyn—*by Lloyd Niemann*

In memory of Ted and Diane Kemmerer, and Freda Muthler—*by the Muthler Family*

In honor of Fred Muthler—*by the Muthler Family*

In honor of our grandchildren—*by Jeff and Linda Muthler*

In memory of my husband Malcolm Hummel, and in honor of
my children Max, Jan, and Morgen—*by Martha Hummel*

In memory of my father Malcolm Hummel, and in honor of
my mother Martha Hummel—*by Morgen Hummel*

In memory of our parents—*Ron and Debbie Strouse*

In honor of George and Grace Horn—*by Edna McCauley*

(People who purchased tulips may take them home after the Easter service)

ST PAUL
PINE GROVE MILLS
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Serving Today

Worship Leader.....Pastor Paul Tomkiel
Assisting Minister.....Joy Kling
Musician..... Michelle McMcullen
Sacristan.....Ann Reede
Reader.....Linda Govere

About St. Paul

Purpose

We are a beacon, boldly sharing the light of Jesus' grace and love.

Mission

Guided by Jesus, we strengthen faith, deepen compassion, extend generosity, and serve community.

Core Values

Faith ❧ Compassion ❧ Generosity ❧ Community

Our Bible Verses

As Paul was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. [Jesus said,] 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before the nations.'– Acts 9:3,15

Land Acknowledgement

St. Paul is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Susquehannock people, where we gather for worship this morning. We also acknowledge the Seneca, Cayuga, Lenne Lenape, as well as all of our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to care for this place – this land – and call it their home.

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