

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80214
(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com

Member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

The Festival of the Resurrection Easter Sunday – April 17, 2022

Serving Us At God's House Today
Organist: Jeana Kettner; Usher: Mark Hartmeister

Welcome to all in the name of Jesus our Savior. Connected by grace through faith to Him, our risen Lord, we rejoice in the victory of His resurrection and in full confidence of our own resurrection. As we view the glory of our Savior in God's Word today may we be led to a stronger faith and reliance on Him for our every need. May the Holy Spirit bless us richly in our worship on this Easter morning!



To our worship guests: A special welcome in Jesus' name! We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today. We wish you God's richest blessings and invite you to leave a record of your visit by signing our guest book. If you have no church home in the community and are seeking a fellowship in which you might worship and serve your Lord, we invite you to speak with the Pastor who will be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

+ + + + +

Order of Worship

Liturgical Note – The paraments up front have been changed to white, reminding us of the glory of the risen Christ that is now also ours, through faith in Him!

Opening Prayer

Hymn 463

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

P Welcome ... in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C (says) Amen.

Confession of Sins & Words of Absolution

P Lord, we confess to You our sinful condition and our sinful behavior.

C Have mercy on us, Father in heaven. Bless us and keep us.

P Lord, we realize that we have deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment.

C Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus. Make Your face shine upon us and be gracious to us.

P Lord, we are not able to atone for our sins, nor can we set ourselves free from the guilt of our sin.

C Have mercy on us, Holy Spirit. Lift up Your countenance upon us and give us peace.

P Jesus was delivered over to death because of our sins. He was raised to life because God declared us righteous. Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed!

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ You conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with Him through baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing His glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

C (says) Amen.

The Easter Story in Six Readings

| | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------|
| I. Mark 16:1-7 <i>[Ed Chiappetti]</i> | “He is risen!” | Hymn 480:1 |
| II. John 20:11-18 <i>[Don Claeys]</i> | “Why are you crying?” | Hymn 480:2 |
| III. Luke 24:13-24 <i>[Nathan Kettner]</i> | “On the way to Emmaus” | Hymn 480:3 |
| IV. Luke 24:25-35 <i>[Sherman Kettner]</i> | “Were not our hearts burning?” | Hymn 480:4 |
| V. Luke 24:36-43 <i>[Jesse Cornish]</i> | “Peace be with you!” | Hymn 480:5 |
| VI. Luke 24:44-49 <i>[Pastor Schuetze]</i> | “You are witnesses!” | |

Easter Sunday Confession of Faith

I believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man, Lord of lords and Savior of the fallen world. I believe that He is the Word made flesh, Who came to earth to redeem all sinners. He was born under the Law, to fulfill all of God's commandments on my behalf. He was crucified at the hands of sinful men, and endured all the punishment that I and all sinners deserved, to fully satisfy the justice of God. He died and was buried.

I believe that on the third day Jesus Christ rose bodily from the dead, as the prophets foretold and as He Himself promised. Proved by the inspired Scriptures and by many eyewitnesses, Jesus' resurrection shows that He is God's Son, that His mission of salvation is complete, and that He has triumphed over death, our last great enemy.

With this victory, Christ has become our forerunner, the firstfruits of all who sleep in Him. Because He rose, I and all who trust in His redeeming work shall rise on the Last Day to a life of endless bliss. Because He lives, I too shall live. He will fulfill His promise: *"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."* Amen.

Choir Anthem

Christ Is Living
Worship Supplement 2000 #728

Sermon

Text: Luke 24:1-8

"Hallelujah! Christ is Risen! Indeed!"

Proven beyond doubt by ...

1. The vacant grave!
2. The angel reporters!
3. The words of promise spoken by Jesus!

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with 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; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" Then they remembered his words.

Hymn 730 (tan hymnal)

Now Let the Heav'ns Be Joyful

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Responsive Prayer

- P** Heavenly Father, God of grace, You have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.
- C** **He was delivered over to death for our sins, and raised to life for our justification.**

P We marvel at the love You showed by Your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at Your mighty power which raised him from the dead.

C **We praise You for sending the true Life and Light into the world.**

P Lord Jesus, God of grace, You have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by Your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C **You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.**

P With the church of every age, we offer You unending praise, for You have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt. Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to You for rest, knowing that because of Your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C **Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.**

P Holy Spirit, God of grace, You have called us by the Gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C **We glorify You for opening our eyes to see the light of life.**

P Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when You will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ. Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear Your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C **Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia!**

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.

Hymn 457 (1-3)

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

The Benediction

P Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

C (sings) **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 457, stanza 4

+++++

This Week at St. Paul

| | | |
|--------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Today (4/17) | 8:45 am | Choir Practice |
| | 9:30 am | Easter Sunday Worship |
| Sun (4/24) | 9:30 am | Worship Service |
| | 10:45 am | Bible Class and Sunday School |
| | 10:45 am | Quarterly Voters' Meeting |

Upcoming on the Calendar

- Spring Clean-Up Day: Saturday, April 30, 8:00 am to noon
- Elders' Meeting: Sunday, May 1, 8:30 am
- West-Central Delegate Conf: Tues-Thu, May 24-26 (*see note below*)

Thanks To All who contributed menu items as well as serving talents for last week's Palm Sunday breakfast. The food and fare was both plentiful and delicious!

St. Paul Will Be Serving As Host for the West-Central Delegate Conference scheduled for Tuesday through Thursday, May 24-26. Fred Brethauer and Bob Rankin have volunteered to represent St. Paul as lay delegates. **Housing Will Be Needed** for an estimated 25-30 participants at this conference (from about twelve congregations of the CLC's "West-Central District"). A housing sign-up list is posted on the bulletin board. Please add your name if you can help in this way. Note: We plan to rent motel rooms for lodging some of the delegates. If you are unable to serve as host for delegates but would like to give a donation for the motel room rentals, place your gift in the offering plate, designating it for "conference lodging."

Flower Money Donations – St. Paul's Mary & Martha ladies' group will be planting flowers in the front again this Spring. If you would like to help us defray the cost, you can: 1. Put it in an envelope marked "Flower Donation" 2. Put it in your offering envelope & mark "Flower Donation" on the LEFT side of your envelope in the blank space provided. 3. Give your donation directly to Crystal Ruegge, Mary & Martha Treasurer. We thank you!

Synod News & Notes

"The TVBS committee has finalized our list of trips for this summer. We will be going to California, Washington, and North Dakota. We are now in need of volunteers to ensure we can make these trips possible. If you are interested in volunteering and would like more information please go to our website: <http://www.clctvbs.org/tvbs>. You will find information about the trips, this year's theme, and a registration form. If you have any questions you may use the 'contact us' link or email us directly at the email address below. Please let us know if you would like more information or have any questions. Thank you for considering! Thanks, Ryan Hammett on behalf of the TVBS Committee"

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Daily Bible Readings for Devotions April 18-23, 2022

Mon Exodus 15:1-11 Easter and Exodus don't seem to belong together, but there's more than one exodus. The enslavement of Hebrews in Egypt resembles other slaveries—such as slavery to Satan and sin. So God's grace and mercy in the Old Testament Exodus foreshadows Jesus' exit from the grave, *dashing that enemy in pieces and overthrowing those that rage against Jesus. Who is like You, O LORD, glorious in holiness, doing wonders!*

Tues John 20: 1-18 Mary panicked; Peter and John were more stable, but none of them figured it out that Jesus was gone because He was alive and fully functional to exit the grave on His own power. So somebody had to connect the dots for them – which Jesus did first-hand and face-to-face (11-16). We fit the pattern, too. Come quickly, Lord Jesus, face-to-face with us!

Wed Colossians 3:1-4 We are like Jesus in that we have been raised from the dead, too (1). From that starting point, much of *our life lies hidden* beyond our vision and our sensory faculties. [Just as atoms, electricity, gravity, and magnetism are puzzles to scientists.] But when Jesus comes back into the framework of our space-time continuum, then *we also will appear with Him*, side-by-side and hand-in-hand, *in glory*. Amen! Hallelujah!

Thurs Isaiah 25:6-9 God put Isaiah into a projection booth above the theater audience and let him enlighten his generation with God's grace for exiled Semites. Then the LORD reeled off His scenario for all generations yet to be born – a time of prosperity for everyone (6-7) with Easter blessings lasting to Judgment Day (8)—thus prompting our response of expectant faith (9).

Fri Luke 24:1-12 *Perplexed, afraid, and disbelieving* are momentary responses especially when we face the unknown. So when we face the anomaly of His apex miracle, God pokes us to *remember how He spoke to us when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'* May God's Holy Spirit turn our momentary weaknesses into trusting His Word on this subject.

Sat 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 God confronts us with His plans and deeds via the Holy Bible, where we have His word on it that *Christ died for our sins*, exactly as He had promised throughout the centuries. Otherwise it's all a *mystery* to us. Since Jesus safely and wonderfully exited the other side of the cemetery, God promises to do the same for us. Believe it! Trust God's love to use His power, His skill, His resources, His energy, His good-hearted nature, etc., etc. to *give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*. With all that going for us, we can be *steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord*. Thank You, dear Lord Jesus!