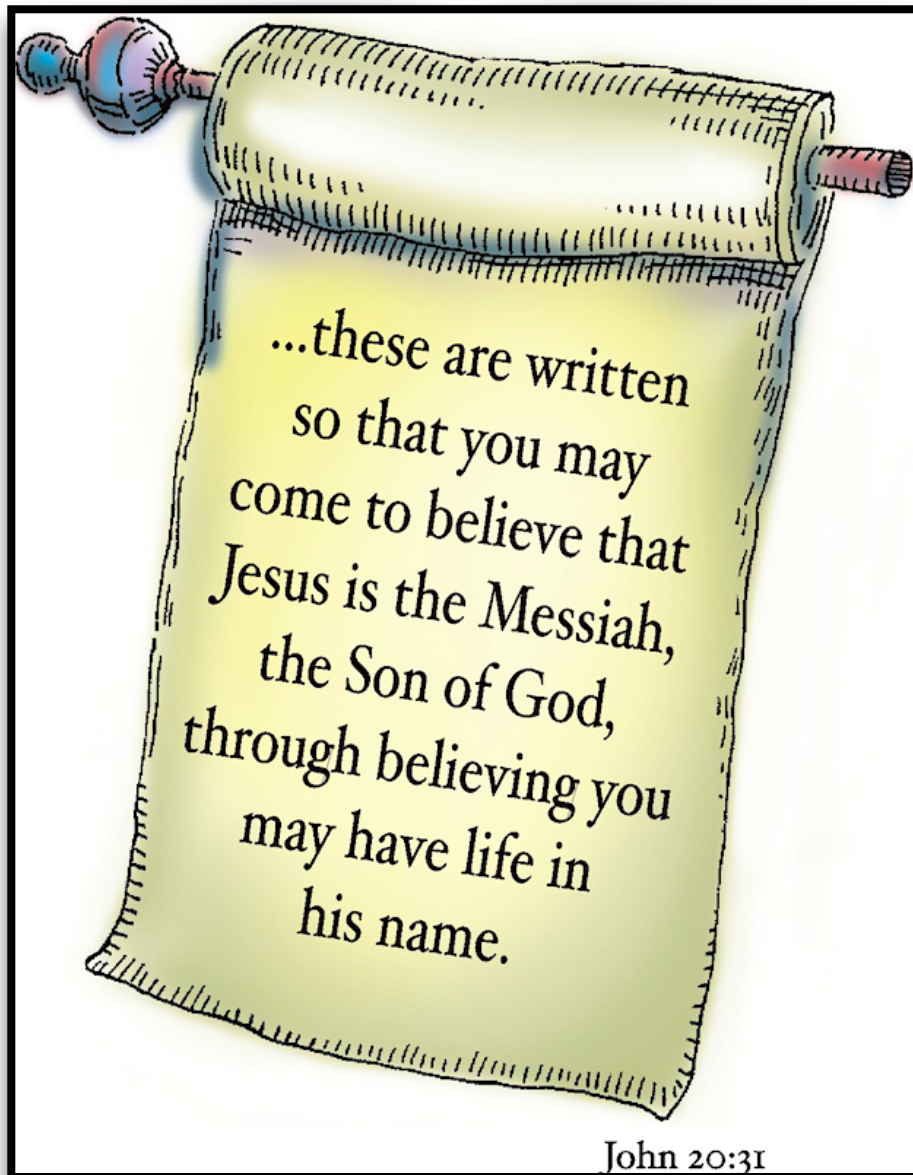


St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

– Church of the Lutheran Confession –
Lakewood, Colorado



2nd Sunday of Easter
April 24, 2022

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

(303) 233-5000 – www.denverlutheran.com

Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)

Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

Order of Worship: Service of the Word

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

Serving Us At God's House Today

Organist: Carly Meyer; Usher: Mark Hartmeister

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 16 (pew bible, p.486)
- ◆ The Hymns: 477, 475, 466 (1-4), 466 (5)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Revelation 1:4-18, John 20:19-31
- ◆ Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed (liturgy insert, p.15)

Sermon Text – Acts 5:12,17-32

Luke's Account of the Incredible Jerusalem Jailbreak

Two take-aways from the story:

1. Expect men (even government officials) to do all they can to suppress the Easter message.
2. Expect the Holy Spirit to help you to keep on telling others the full Easter message.

- ◆ Offering of Thankful Hearts
- ◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (466, stanza 5)

† † †

Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by the tract rack or by request from an usher.

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Revelation 1:4-18

4 John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. 7 Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. 8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” 9 I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. 10 On the Lord’s Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, 11 which said: “Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.” 12 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and among the lampstands was someone “like a son of man,” dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. 15 His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Easter Acclamation

P The Lord is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The Lord takes pleasure in His people.

C **He honors the humble with victory.**

P Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

C **By His great mercy He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

P This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. To Him who loves us and freed us from our sins by His blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving His God and Father,

C **To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

P “Put your finger here and see My hands.

C **Reach out your hand and touch My side. Do not be faithless, but believe.”**

P This is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.

C **The Lord is risen indeed!**

P Blessing and honor and glory and might be to the One who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever!

C **The Lord is risen indeed!**

Second Lesson – John 20:19-31

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” 24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.” 26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” 28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” 30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon Text – Acts 5:12,17-32

12 The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon’s Colonnade. | 17 Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18 They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. 20 “Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people the full message of this new life.” 21 At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. 22 But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, 23 “We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside.” 24 On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were puzzled, wondering what would come of this. 25 Then someone came and said, “Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people.” 26 At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. 27 Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. 28 “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.” 29 Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than men! 30 The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. 31 God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. 32 We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

A warm welcome to our Worship Guests. It is our prayer that your faith is strengthened today by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs that our Scripture-based liturgy offers every week. St. Paul is a member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC). The CLC is represented by congregations throughout the United States and Canada, with affiliated churches in Africa, India, and neighboring nations. All of our churches confess the Bible to be the inspired and unerring Word of God. We invite our Guests to record their visit by signing the Guestbook and to come worship with us again.

This Week at St. Paul

Today (4/24)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
Sat	8:00 am	Spring Clean-Up Day, till noon (<i>see note below</i>)
Sun (5/1)	8:30 am	Elders' Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Bible Class & Sunday School

Upcoming Events

West-Central Delegate Conference at St. Paul: Tue-Thu, May 24-26
 CLC Convention, Eau Claire WI: Thu-Sun, June 23-26

May Birthday (Anniversary) Blessings To . . .

Willa Mae Janssen, May 19	Suzannah Miller, May 24
Lisa Chiappetti, May 22	(Lance & Diana Clark, May 23)

Spring Clean-Up: Please mark your calendar for the work day scheduled for this Saturday, April 30, here at St. Paul, from 8:00 am to noon. There are a number of clean-up projects to complete (raking, bagging of leaves, etc). If you would like a project to do on your own at another time, please speak with Trustee, Mike Sprengeler. The weather forecast for Saturday is "sunny with temperatures in the 60's" so conditions should be favorable for our clean-up day.

Synod News & Notes

- **Synod Meetings This Week:** Each Fall and Spring the boards of our church body, the CLC, meet to conduct the work of God’s kingdom among us. Representatives from each board then meet as the “Coordinating Council” (CC) to consider budgets and other matters, according to the direction the president. The Spring 2022 CC meetings will be held this week on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire WI. Please keep the work of these boards in your prayers, asking God to bless the work they do in your name, that it might redound to His praise, and serve for the welfare of souls and the spread of Christ’s reign to many hearts. A report on actions taken and decisions made at the CC meetings will be shared soon.
- **The Board of Doctrine** will also meet this week Monday and Tuesday. Pastor Schuetze, as a member of this board, plans to attend. He will be out of town today through Wednesday. In the event of an emergency you may reach him at 720-465-4809. Philip Bolen, formerly a pastor in the LC-MS and currently a member of Prince of Peace, Hecla SD, has applied for colloquy into the ministerium of the CLC. He will be meeting with the Board of Doctrine on Tuesday.
- **The Kinship Committee** is in need of individual sponsors for both orphans and seminarians in our overseas sister congregations. Fields of opportunity are continually expanding, as are the needs for support from those who are moved do to do. Please consider helping. Financial support ranges from \$25/month to \$50/month. For more information please see, call, email, or text Dan Roehl— danroehl@hotmail.com / 507-381-2042.
- **A Reminder that Copies of the March CLC Foreign Missions Prayer List** may be found on the shelf under the tract rack. Help yourself if you did not receive one yet. *“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18).*
- **Call News:** Pastor Mark Tiefel, Redemption Lutheran Church, Lynnwood WA, has accepted the call to Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton WI.

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Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

April 25-30

Mon Acts 5:12,17-32 In one of the porticoes/lanais of the Temple complex, perverse clergymen did their best to put a damper on the Spirit's work, but they were outgunned and outflanked by God (17-28), who also nudged Peter to lay out the facts—that God kept the wheels of salvation moving by raising Jesus from the dead, elevating Him to heavenly glory, and putting courage into His witnesses to speak up—loud and clear (29-32).

Tues John 20:19-29 The disciples were afraid of the Jews who had killed Jesus, and that was good reason for Jesus to show up: He was visible proof that killing Him didn't last (19-20). [Can you figure out how forgiveness fits into this spot of the narrative (23)?] We should thank Thomas for being backward, for Jesus is patient with all of us doubters, who crave the blessing of walking by faith, not by sight (27-29). Thank You, Jesus, for being so patient!

Wed Revelation 1:4-11 Who said God isn't interested in us and our church family? He authorized John to tell seven Turkistan congregations that Jesus, Lord of the Church, didn't want them to be clueless about His love and concerns. How wonderful that Jesus, CEO and Be-all-End-all of the Holy Christian Church (1-8), delegated Evangelist John to set them straight about their favored place in God's grand salvation enterprise!

Thurs Acts 7:51-60 Stephen's service as Helping Hands Coordinator took a turn here, for when he rehearsed God's grace and mercy, Satan stirred up a hornets' nest; the buzzing interrupted his sermon, pushing Stephen to a hasty Application (51-53), which infuriated the hornets (54). So God stepped in and rewarded Stephen with his charter trip to heaven.

Fri John 20:30-31 is both short and long; short in words, long in meaning. God takes into account that we humans depend on our five senses to figure out where we are in space/time; we perceive reality via our senses. That's why Jesus performed so many miracles and why the Holy Spirit put every-thing into a written record—so that down through the centuries people like us could be brought to entrust our souls/lives into Jesus' miraculous hands.

Sat Revelation 1:12-18 We may be so used to picturing Jesus as humble and lowly that we don't recognize Him as He IS in heaven. Take a deep breath now, for Jesus is so splendiferous that (viewing Him from head to foot) His face is like sunshine at high noon, His eyes like arc-welding, His hair like fresh snow, His feet like refined brass, His voice like Niagara Falls, etc. The Holy Spirit wants us to picture Jesus this way—along with the other mental images of His birth, visit to the Temple, baptism in the Jordan, visits with friends, etc. This vision impresses us with His heavenly life/activities (17-18). Amen.