

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2470 Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80214

Pastor: Thomas Schuetze, 303-428-5524, trschuetze@yahoo.com

Congregation President: Ed Chiappetti, 303-882-1776

Sunday School Superintendent: Derek Barthels



www.denverlutheran.com

Find us on Facebook at: "St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church"

Member Congregation:
Church of the Lutheran Confession
www.clclutheran.org



5th Sunday in Lent – April 6, 2025

A Warm Welcome in Christ to our Worship Guests! We are glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus. Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He will be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

Today's Order of Worship is "Divine Worship Setting 1," as printed in the liturgy pamphlet distributed by the ushers. The service is based on pages 12-21 in *Worship Supplement 2000* (tan hymnal). Please leave your copy of the liturgy pamphlet in the pew after the service concludes or drop it into the designated box in the foyer so that it may be used in future services. Thank you.



Serving Us Today
Organist Carly Mess
Ushers Mark Harmeister, Bob Rankin

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 119:25-32 (pew bible, page 545)
- ◆ Today's Hymns: : 660 (1-3), 664, 623, 660 (4)
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 43:16-21, Luke 20:9-19
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: Psalm 73

Sermon



Text – Philippians 3:7-14

Theme – *"The Prize Awaits"*

1. Won by faith, not works.
2. Press on to receive it!

The Scripture Lessons, Psalm of the Day, and Sermon Text are printed on the following pages.

Today's Scriptures

First Lesson – Isaiah 43:16-21

I Will Do a New Thing / Rivers in the Desert for My People

16 Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters, 17 Who brings forth the chariot and horse, the army and the power (they shall lie down together, they shall not rise; they are extinguished, they are quenched like a wick): 18 “Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. 19 Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. 20 The beast of the field will honor Me, the jackals and the ostriches, because I give waters in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to My people, My chosen. 21 This people I have formed for Myself; they shall declare My praise.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 73

There is Nothing on Earth that I Desire Besides You

P I am continually with You; O LORD:

C You hold me by my right hand.

P You will guide me with Your counsel:

C And afterward receive me to glory.

P Whom have I in heaven but You?:

C And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.

P My flesh and my heart fail:

C But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Second Lesson – Luke 20:9-19

The Parable of the Tenants in the Vineyard

9 Then He began to tell the people this parable: “A certain man planted a vineyard, leased it to vinedressers, and went into a far country for a long time. 10 Now at vintage-time he sent a servant to the vinedressers, that they might give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the vinedressers beat him and sent him away empty-handed. 11 Again he sent another servant; and they beat him also, treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. 12 And again he sent a third; and they wounded him also and cast him out. 13 “Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son. Probably they will respect him when they see him.’ 14 But when the vinedressers saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, “This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.’ 15 So they cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore what will the owner of the vineyard do to them? 16 He will come and destroy those vinedressers and give the vineyard to others.” And when they heard it they said, “Certainly not!” 17 Then He looked at them and said, “What then is this that is written: ‘The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone’? 18 Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.” 19 And the chief priests and the scribes that very hour sought to lay hands on Him, but they feared the people—for they knew He had spoken this parable against them.

Sermon Text – Philippians 3:7-14

Righteousness Through Faith in Christ / Straining Toward the Goal

7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him,

not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; 10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are taken from *The Holy Bible*, New King James Version (Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc., © 1982). Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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This Week at St. Paul

Today (4/6)	8:30 am	Church Council Meeting
	9:30 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Sunday School
	10:45 am	Mary & Martha Ladies Meeting
Wed	7:00 pm	Lenten Service 6
Sun (4/13)	9:30 am	Worship Service
	10:45 am	Palm Sunday brunch

Extended Calendar

- Maundy Thursday Com. Service: Thursday, April, 17, 7:00 pm
- Good Friday Worship: Friday, April 18, 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday Worship: Sunday, April 20, 9:30 am
- Spring Clean-Up Day: Saturday, April 26, 8:00 am to noon
- Annual Front Range Mission Festival Service: Sunday, May 4, 3:00 pm, hosted by Prince of Peace Lutheran in Loveland (guest speaker: Pastor David Reim).
- West-Central Delegate Conference, hosted by Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Jamestown, ND: Tues-Thurs, May 20-22
- Pastor-elect Sam Naumann Installation Service at Prince of Peace, Loveland: Sunday, May 25, 3:00 pm

Synod News & Notes

Women's Retreat West: Berea Lutheran Church will be hosting this year's Women's Retreat West over the weekend of September 19-21, 2025. We will be at the Clubhouse Hotel and Suites here in Sioux Falls, SD. The theme for this year's retreat will be "Pieces of Jesus' Peace", based on a few passages of Scripture and drawn specifically from the words of Jesus in John 14:27. Stay tuned for more information in the bulletin announcements and at the Women's Retreat website: womensretreat.clclutheran.net

Financial Aid Applications: Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary has a financial aid program that helps students to attend by assisting with loans, multi-student grants, individual student grants, scholarships, and work study. All students are encouraged to submit an application. While the scholarships are automatically applied based upon academic performance, the other aids are provided upon application made by the responsible party. In order to be as helpful and as equitable to all, these forms need to be submitted by the deadline which is May 1, 2025, for the 2025-26 academic year. If any potential student is showing any interest in attending Immanuel, applying now ensures that you will be considered for financial assistance. While applications have already been provided to the families of current students, you may still find them at ilc.edu/resources/ under the heading "Financial Assistance Forms & Info."

Call News: Missionary Peter Evensen of Togo, West Africa, has received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Mrs. Vanessa Wales and Mrs. Danielle Sippert have accepted their calls from Grace Lutheran School, Sleepy Eye, MN, to teach language arts and other courses for the 2025-2026 school year.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

April 7-12

Mon John 11:28-44 Martha leaves Jesus to get her sister, and Mary comes to Him with the same greeting as her sister. Jesus weeps to see all their sorrow, and proceeds to show God's glory in giving life to the dead!

Tues John 11:45-53 Many believe on the Lord of life, but the Jewish leaders see Him as a threat to their position. Caiaphas prophesies that one should die for the people, unaware of God's plan to save us that way!

Wed 1 Peter 1:13-16 Peter calls upon God's people to set their hope on God's promised grace in Christ, and to let that hope show in self-controlled lives set apart for the glory of their Savior God.

Thurs 1 Peter 1:17-21 Since we were not redeemed from emptiness by passing things like silver and gold, such things should not rate highest in our lives; but rather our love for Him who shed His own blood for us all!

Fri Exodus 5:1-21 Israel's request to worship God in the wilderness is not only refused, but appears to make things worse. The people blame Moses, but this is really the start of their return to the promised land!

Sat Job 33:13-30 Job's friend Elihu rebukes those who blame God for their troubles. As God speaks in different ways (v14-18), so He disciplines in different troubles (v19-30), all to bring back a soul from the pit.