



**St. Paul**  
**Lutheran Church**  
share • care • grow  
La Grange, Texas

**The Rev. Stan Larson, Interim Pastor**  
**Organist/Piano: Sherise Davis**  
**Tuba: Glenn Davis**  
**Trumpet: Gerardo Gomez and**  
**Kathy Toensing**



**Next weekend's readings:**

**Acts 5: 27-32; Psalm 118: 14-29; Revelation 1: 4-8**

**John 20: 19-31**

**LISTEN TO ST. PAUL SERVICES!**

Visit our webpage, [www.stpaulg.org](http://www.stpaulg.org), and click **"Listen"** to hear our services live on your smartphone or computer! You can also view our bulletin, weekly service video, newsletters and current calendar. Visit our Facebook page to

## **St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

The Rev. Stan Larson, Interim Pastor

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## Welcome!

- + Welcome to worship! All are welcome at the table of grace. We believe that Christ is truly present as we share the bread and wine. Those at home are invited to participate with appropriate elements.
- + The 9 a.m. service will be on Facebook live & audio streamed on our webpage, [www.stpaullg.org](http://www.stpaullg.org). It will also be posted on our Facebook page. You may listen to last week's service on KBUK 104.9 FM on Sundays at 10 am.
- + Everyone is invited for coffee and snacks in the Fellowship Hall following Sunday morning's service.

## GATHER

### Prelude

### Announcements

*Those who are able, please stand.*

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

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

In the name of **✝** the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.*

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

### HYMN

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

*#365*

## Greeting

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

## **Kyrie** *page 147*

**A:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. **Amen.**

## **Canticle of Praise** *page 148*

**A:** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** 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. **Amen.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**First Reading: Acts 10: 34-43**

*Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.*

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> 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. <sup>39</sup> 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; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> 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. <sup>42</sup> 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. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> **Let Israel now declare,  
"God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup> The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:  
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

- <sup>20</sup> “This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter.”
- <sup>21</sup> **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**
- <sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- <sup>23</sup> **By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**
- <sup>24</sup> This is the day that the LORD has made;  
**let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

## **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 19-26**

*Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God’s victorious rule over all.*

- <sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
- <sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.
- <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; <sup>22</sup> for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death.
- The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Those who are able, please stand.*

## **Gospel Acclamation ELW 151**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **Gospel: Luke 24: 1-12**

*Evidently expecting to find Jesus’ corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.*

- <sup>1</sup> On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in, they did not find the body. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> 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.”<sup>6</sup> Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee,<sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”<sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words,<sup>9</sup> and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.

<sup>10</sup> Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.<sup>11</sup> But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.<sup>12</sup> 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**Children’s Word**

**Pastor Stan Larson**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Stan Larson**

*Those who are able, please stand.*

**Hymn**

*Thine is the Glory*

**#376**

## **Nicene Creed**

**P: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## 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.*

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 assisting AMEN, Texas Ramp Project, Feed the Need, and Come to the Table, that their work will plant seeds that flourish. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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, **hear our prayer.**

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. Raise up leaders who are steadfast in their commitment to justice and transformation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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 especially Mike Hensel, or grieving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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. Give us courage to boldly share your love for all people beyond our walls. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the cross, we give you thanks for all the marvelous things you have done, for what you are doing today, and for what you lead us to tomorrow. Show us the leader you have chosen for bishop of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, the person who will help cast your vision for this place, who will guide and listen, advise and learn from all, and work your will to lead us into the future. Now Lord, strengthen us with the promise that within the ashes of death are the seeds of resurrection life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our companion synods—the Lutheran Churches of Central African Republic and Peru. May we with them continue to spread the gospel and the love of God. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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, **hear our prayer.**

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. **Amen.**

## **The Sharing of the Peace**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Congregation shares the peace and may then be seated.*

**Offering** *The offering plates will be passed.*

*Those who are able, please stand.*

**Offering Song** *ELW 184*

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

## **Offering Prayer**

**P:** 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. **Amen.**

## MEAL

**The Great Thanksgiving** *ELW 152*

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**



## Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

## 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**

*The congregation may be seated.*

**Agnus Dei** *page 146*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## Communion

*All are welcome to the Lord's table. White grape juice is in the center of the tray of cups. If you are physically unable to come forward for communion, please tell an usher and communion will be brought to you.*

*Those who are able, please stand.*

## Prayer after Communion

**P:** Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

## SENDING

## Blessing

**P:** The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

**Sending Song**     *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*     #385

## Dismissal

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

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**This Weekend: (4/20)**

**9:00 am USHERS:** Paul Mikula, Linda Morrison,  
Glenn Davis, Duke Hengst, Linda Diers

**LECTOR:** Glenn Davis

**ALTAR GUILD:** Janet Coronado

**Fellowship Refreshments:** Volunteer committee

**FLOWERS:** Easter Lillies

**Next Weekend: (4/27)**

**9:00 am USHERS:** Scott Toensing, Donnie Dippel,  
Tim Knesek, Lloyd & Sylvia Jewell

**LECTOR:** Lloyd Jewell

**ALTAR GUILD:** JoLene & Gerald Hughes

**Fellowship Refreshments:** Linda Morrison

**FLOWERS:** In Memory of W.O. "Red" and Marilyn  
Miller by Neal and Dee Miller and Family.

**SUNDAY (4/20):** 9:00 am Worship

Light Brunch after Services

10:30 am Adult Education

**MONDAY:** 6:30 pm Fishers of Men

**TUESDAY:** 8:30 am Tacky Tuesday

**MAY** Newsletter Deadline At noon

**WEDNESDAY:** 8:30 am Bible Study

5:00 pm Confirmation

6:00 pm Bells

6:30 pm LYO

7:00 pm Choir

No Praise Band rehearsal

**SATURDAY:** MS 150 riders being hosted by  
LYO overnight stay

**SUNDAY (4/27):** 9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Adult Education

**Reminder**—Fishers of Men will meet on Monday, April 21 at 6:30 pm. They will meet at the home of Frank Macaulay; 3424 Forest Hill East Lane; La Grange. Hosts are David Ehler and Frank Macaulay.

**Reminder**—deadline for the **May** Newsletter will be Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at noon. Please submit all articles and information by that time. Any information received after this date is not guaranteed to be printed in the newsletter. You may email any information to: [stpaul@cvctx.com](mailto:stpaul@cvctx.com) or call the church office at: 979-968-5657. Thank you.

**Reminder**—Tacky Tuesday will be on Tuesday, April 22, at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please join to help pin hems, cut batting, and tie knots for Lutheran World Relief Quilts. There will be a pot luck lunch at 11:30 am with time to visit around the table.

**REMINDER**—St. Paul is hosting a group from Frost Bank MS-150 Team on Saturday, April 26. The group arrives that afternoon, ventures out for a meal and then spends the night at St. Paul. On Sunday morning the LYO will prepare them breakfast and they are usually back on their bicycles and on the road by 7:00 am. This group has a long history of staying at St. Paul and supporting the LYO with a monetary contribution.

