

Thank You

Thank you for the gift card presented last week at the beginning of the service. I appreciate the recognition as well as the help each and every one of you provide me whenever called upon.

Nalani

This Place

Here is where we give you the permission you haven't yet given yourself to show up and be your most authentic self.

You can cry here,
you can take your time here,
to be you is not a crime here.

We are all diving here,
we shine brighter when we all shine here,
we rise higher when we all rise here,
we practice being kind here,
we celebrate the fact that we are still alive here.

We can make mistakes here,
no guilt, blame, or shame here,
there's only grace here,
we know you by name here,
we've been waiting for you,
so glad you came here,
we hope that you stay here,
All that you are can be reclaimed and embraced here.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 12, 2024

**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

****(Indicates that the people should stand as they are able.)***

Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the wellspring of grace,
our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism,
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.
The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.
Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,
giving all honor and praise to you,
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

***Hymn**

"God is Here

ELW#526

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.

Prayer of the Day

**Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and
by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your
Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our
joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The church council has called for a special meeting of the
congregation to be held on Sunday, May 19, 2024. The
meeting will begin shortly after the conclusion of the Worship
Service.

The meeting has been called to discuss the responses
received regarding the questionnaire sent to the voting
members of the congregation. It is likely a motion or
motions may be made following the discussion.

Celebrate Our Graduates

Yes, May 19 will be busy, but we cannot stress the importance of
recognizing the graduating seniors from St. Paul's:

Brookwood: Vanessa Anderson
Royall: Marah Gruen, Brooklyn Gruen
Home School: Ayawyn Conner
UW-Madison: Kaylin Gruen

Synod Fun Night

Loggers Baseball Game: Sunday, July 7, 2024, 5:00 PM.

Tickets are \$15 and include group seating in backed bleachers and a
voucher for 1 hot dog and soda. If there is enough interest, we could
order tickets in a group setting. Please give feedback to a council mem-
ber.

Anti-Racism Survey

Please drop your completed anti-racism survey in the offering plate
located in the rear of the church.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene, Babbitt, Aidden Tilly, Laurie Switz Johnson, Erin Laperle, Heidi Stenerson, Doug Short, Sally Dana, Dan Paulson, Richie Vlasak, Kristy Gwin Solovey.

IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton, Allen Roscovious

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God's People; Synod Authorized Minister: Karen Sparling;
Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Leonard Arndt; Altar: Arlis & Larry Ballwahn

CALENDAR

Sun., May 12	Noisy Offering	
	Council Meeting	11:30 AM
Sun., May 19	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Celebrate Graduates	
	Congregational Meeting	

Sunday School Children Sing

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

A reading from Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

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

Psalm 1

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the
scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due
season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading

*God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ.
Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and
has the promise of eternal life.*

A reading from 1 John 5:9-13

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this
is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who
believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who
do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the
testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the
testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his
Son. ¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of
God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of
God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Distribution

Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.

"Lamb of God"

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*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Shepherding God,
**you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.
Amen.**

*Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
☩ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

***Hymn "Crown Him With Many Crowns"**

ELW #855

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia"

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GOSPEL READING

In this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

The holy gospel according to *John 17:6-19*

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

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

Sermon

Karen Sparling
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn

“Borning Cry”

ELW#732

***Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (God of grace, hear our prayer.)

OFFERING

***Offertory Hymn**

“Give Thanks”

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he’s given Jesus
Christ, his Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he’s given Jesus
Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”
let the poor say, “I am rich,”
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”
let the poor say, “I am rich,”
because of what the Lord has done for us.**

Give thanks!

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Words of Institution

***LORD’S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

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