

Evans have donated several puzzles and we have added a few from the church. These are mainly 300 and 500 piece puzzles. Stop by the church office if you would like to “check-out” a puzzle. Just like going to the library!

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



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 5, 2024

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

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the 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.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Darlene, Babbitt, Aidden Tilly, Laurie Switz Johnson, Erin Laperle, Heidi Stenerson, Doug Short, Sally Dana, Dan Paulson, Ivan Short, Friends and family of Myrna Fauske.

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: Greg Bever; Altar: Arlis & Larry Ballwahn

CALENDAR

Thurs., May 9	Quilting	9:00 AM
Fri., May 10	Questionnaire Deadline	
Sun., May 12	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Council Meeting	11:30 AM
Sun., May 19	Sunday School	9:00 AM
	Worship	10:15 AM
	Celebrate Graduates Children Sing & Noisy Offering Congregational Meeting	

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Word

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

First Reading

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

A reading from Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Psalm 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes
to judge the earth.**

⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

A reading from 1 John 5:1-6

¹ Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³ For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴ for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵ Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

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"

ELW p.191

*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 "What A Friend We Have in Jesus"**

ELW #742

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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**

ELW p. 190

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ELW p. 190

***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.

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

***Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia"

ELW p. 188

GOSPEL READING

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

The holy gospel according to *John 15:9-17*

[Jesus said:]⁹"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

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

Sermon

Karen Sparling
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

The words to the hymn are on the next page. The melody we will be using is "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come".

- 1 Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Savior, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!
- 2 Other refuge have I none;
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head
with the shadow of thy wing.
- 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am;
thou art full of truth and grace.
- 4 Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

***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.)

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

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,
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