





St. Paul's Church & School 441 Millersville Ave Howards Grove, WI 53083 Office number: 920-565-3780 www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

ADAM BODE PASTOR pastorbode@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

920-224-2961

ERIC EICKHOFF PRESIDENT

president@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-838-4064

LUTHER CURIA

920-287-8575

920-377-0657

MICHAEL WIETING PRINCIPAL

STAFF MINISTER PRINCIPAL luther.curia@stpaulshowardsgrove.org michael.wieting@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 715-439-9193

DOUG MATTEK VICE PRESIDENT vice.president@stpaulshowardsgrove.org **DAVE WEHRMANN**

920-207-7793

ERIN RADUE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-901-6167

CRAIG SCHUENEMANN SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

craig.schuenemann@yahoo.com 920-254-7791

come to (

A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

COMMUNION

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (3K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

Worship Focus: When you've been crying, the sadness is almost impossible to hide. The red and puffy eyes, smudged makeup, shaky voice. That's the sadness that death has brought for thousands of years. But today, all that is wiped away. Jesus has conquered death. The grave is defeated. Our future is secure. This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Just as he did for Mary, the living voice of Jesus speaks our names. "Rejoice! He is Risen."

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Responsive Reading (John 20:1-18)

Pastor: Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

Women: So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

Pastor: So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.

Men: Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

Pastor: (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Women: Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

Pastor: They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

Women: "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

Men: He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Women: Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Men: Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Women: She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means "Teacher").

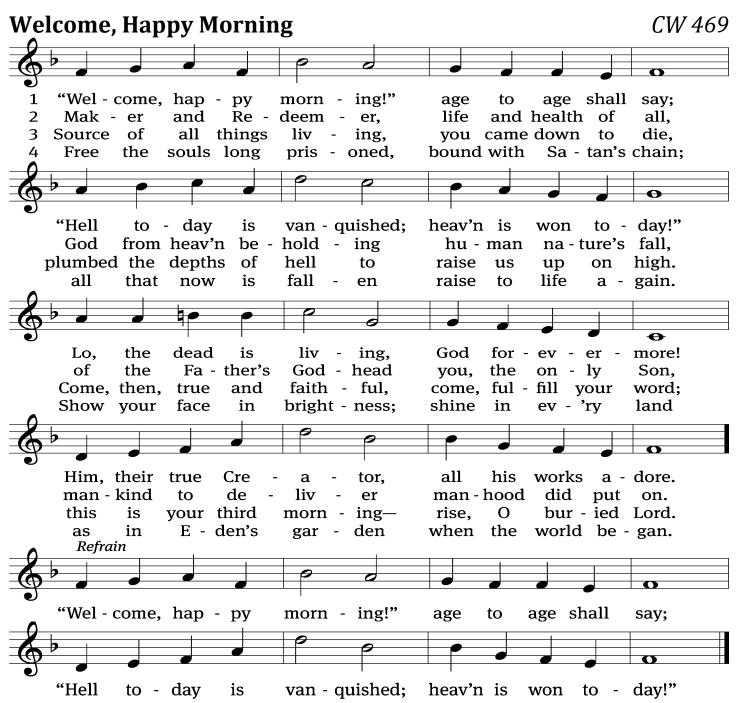
Men: Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Women: Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Pastor: He is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Be seated



Stand

Confession & Absolution

Let us confess our sins to the Lord and receive the assurance of his forgiveness. Holy Lord, I confess that I was born dead in sins and transgressions. I have sung my own praises instead of calling on your name. I have kept silent when I should have spoken out about you or spoken up for others. My actions have been offensive and my thoughts immoral. I deserve to be shut out of your presence where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth now and forever. Lord, have mercy on me!

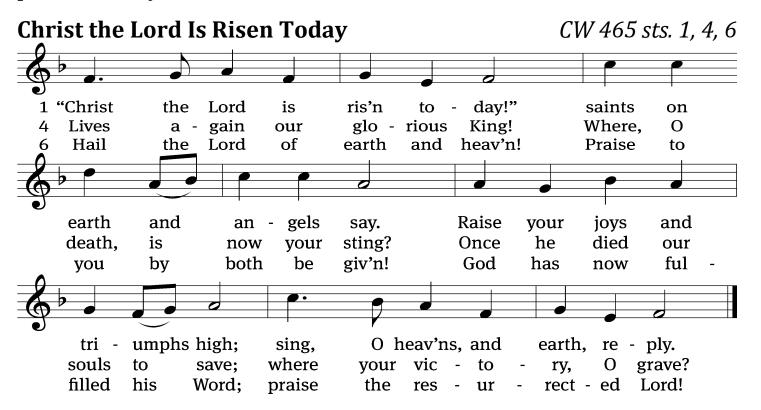
The Lord has been merciful to you and sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to declare God's name perfectly among us, to live a holy life for us, and to die in place of us on the cross. His resurrection proves that you have been justified. There is no sweeter sound! Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Responses from Psalm 30

LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.

Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people; **praise his holy name**.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before you in righteousness and purity forever; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Lesson Isaiah 25:6–9

The LORD will swallow up death forever and wipe away the tears and the disgrace from his people.

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare

a feast of rich food for all peoples,

a banquet of aged wine—

the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷On this mountain he will destroy

the shroud that enfolds all peoples,

the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces:

he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth.

The LORD has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say,

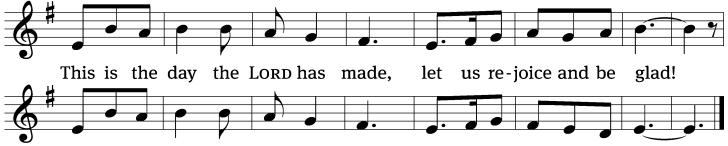
"Surely this is our God;

we trusted in him, and he saved us.

This is the LORD, we trusted in him;

let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

The Word of the Lord.



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Second Lesson

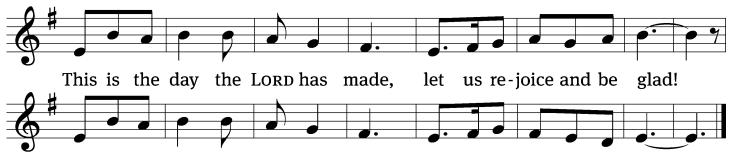
1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Since Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, we can rejoice, for our faith is well-founded and our sins are forgiven.

¹²But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord.



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Stand

Gospel Lesson

Mark 16:1–8

Jesus appeared to Mary and encouraged her not to cry, for he has risen.

¹When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

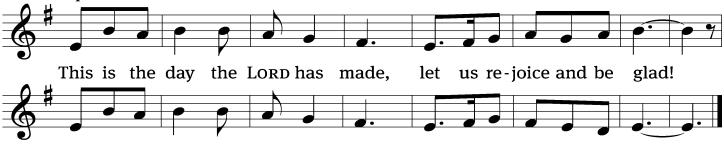
⁴But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

6"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.

But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."

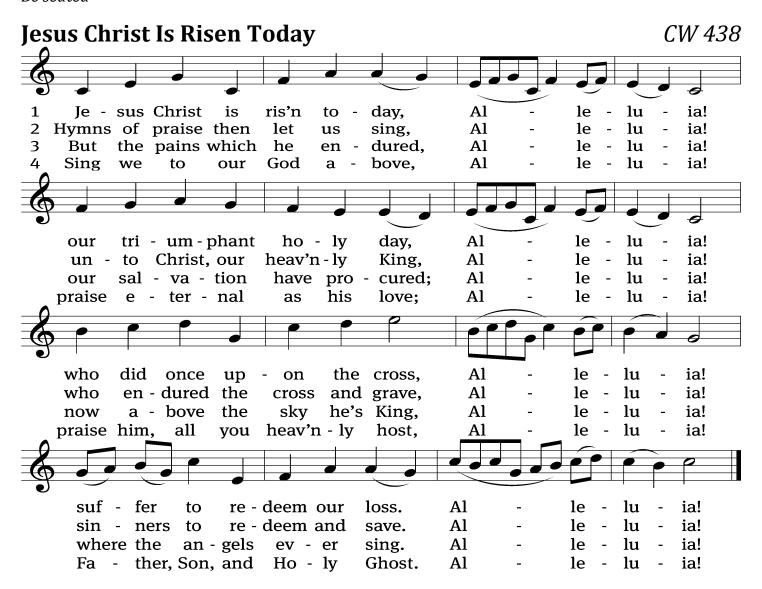
⁸Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

The Gospel of the Lord.



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

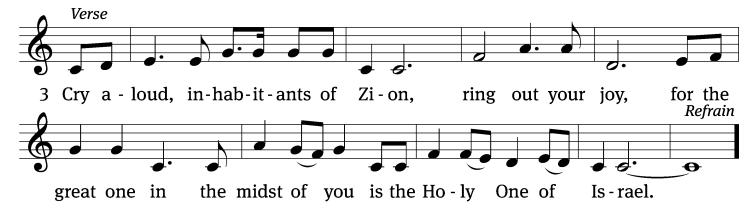
Be seated



Sermon *Mark* 16

The Stone is Rolled Away! See that death is removed – Speak that Christ is risen





Stand

Prayer of the Church and Lord's Prayer

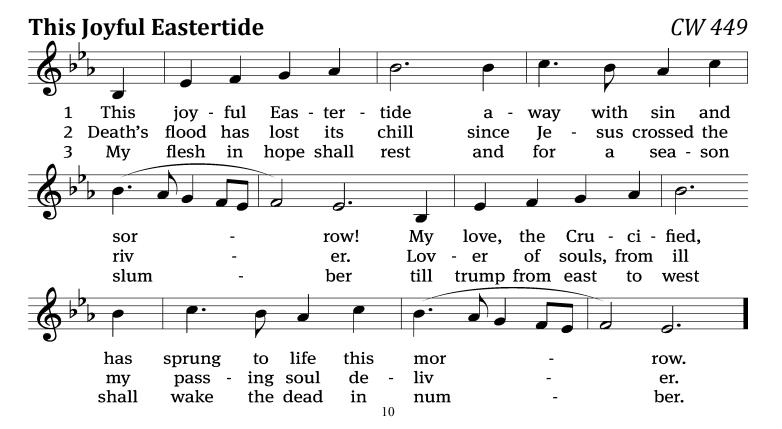
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

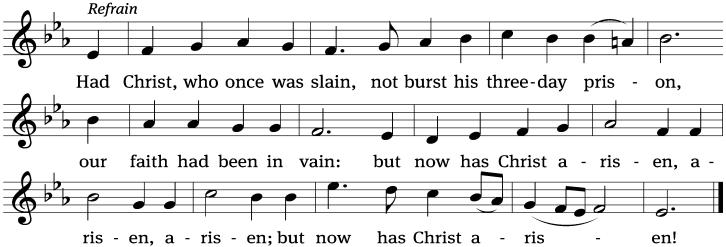
Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord - the Father, the Son + and the Holy Spirit - bless us and keep us.

Amen.

Be seated





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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

Presiding Minister & Preacher: Pastor Adam Bode

SERVICE ACCOMPANIST: Luke Bramstedt

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Nack, Lisa Specht, Lori Wehrmann.

USHERS: 6:30 a.m. – Dennis Eirich, Wally Gierach.

Online giving options available

In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.



Offerings: 3/10 & 3/11 - \$16,200 (needed each week \$19,200). \$250 Faith for the Future. \$16,540 Growing Forward.

ATTENDANCE: 3/10 & 3/11 - 8:00 A.M. - 174. 10:30 A.M. - 150. 6:00 P.M. - 18. MIDWEEK - 157.

This Week at a Glance:		
Date	Service, Bible Study, and Class Times	
Sunday, March 31	6:30 a.m. Easter Dawn Worship	
	8:00 a.m. Easter Festival Worship (choir and instrumentalists)	
	No Family Bible Hour	
	9:30 a.m. Easter Festival Worship (choir and instrumentalists)	
Monday, April 1	NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED	
	6:00 p.m. NO Monday Worship	
Tuesday, April 2	NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED	
Wednesday, April 3	9:00 a.m. Bible Study	
	OFFICE OPEN 12:00 p.m 4:00 p.m.	
	4:15 p.m. Public School Catechism	
	6:30 p.m. Church Council	
Thursday, April 4	NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED	
Friday, April 5	OFFICE OPEN 9:00 a.m 1:00 p.m.	
Sunday, April 7	8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Worship	
	9:15 a.m. Family Bible Hour	
Monday, April 8	6:00 p.m. Monday Night Worship	

Grow with Christ

Bible Studies, Worship, and more!

- 1. **NEW Wednesday Bible Study** Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:00 for an enriching Bible study on 1 Thessalonians beginning Wednesday, April 3. Discover the timeless wisdom and insights of this epistle as we delve into its teachings together. Whether you're a seasoned scholar or new to the Bible, all are welcome to join in this journey of faith and understanding. Come, explore the words of Paul and their relevance to our lives today. See you there!
- 2. **Still time to register for the Women's Retreat:** Registration is extended for the April 20th Women's Retreat. Mel Kreuser will be presenting on the theme Sisters in Christ: God Created Us for Relationship + Great Things. The retreat will run from 9:00 AM 12:00 PM and will cost \$10. You can pick up a registration form in the narthex or scan the QR code to register. Childcare will be provided. There is more information on the registration form and on posters throughout the building. If you have questions, you can email them to womens.ministry@stpaulshowardsgrove.org.
- 3. **LWMS spring rally** will be held on Saturday, April 20 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Manitowoc. Registration is 8-9 a.m. and the rally program will take place from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. with luncheon to follow. Pastor James Borgwardt will speak about home mission work in our district. Join the ladies of our area to celebrate missions!

In Other News

- 1. NO Adult Choir practice Mondays, April 1 or 8.
- 2. Call Updates:
 - a. On March 19, *Jennifer Hacker accepted our call* to teach 3-4 grades in our school starting in the '24-'25 school year. Jennifer is married to Pastor Jason Hacker, the new president of Manitowoc Lutheran High School. They have 4 children, all in grade school and high school. Her email address is <u>jihacker07@yahoo.com</u>. We thank the Lord for providing for our school ministry in this way and ask him to provide for the many other Lutheran schools that are still in need of teachers.
 - b. The School Board decided this month to ask Greg Johnson to finish out this school year as the 3-4 grade teacher. We thank him for his willingness to serve in so many ways this year!
 - c. Our Elders, together with Pastor Bode and Staff Minister Curia, have reviewed our church staffing needs and worked with our district leadership to plan a call meeting for another pastor. Pastor Bode will continue to serve as Associate Pastor but with a focus in the areas of Inreach, Worship, and Administration. On April 14 after the 10:30 service we will have a call meeting for a new Lead Pastor with a focus in the areas of Education, Outreach, Integration, and Congregational Direction.

- 3. **Worship Service Ushers:** Thank you to those who regularly volunteer to serve as ushers for our worship services. As we prepare the usher schedule, please consider serving for at least one month each year. A request for additional ushers in certain months (like July) will soon be sent via Church Community Builder (CCB). Please sign up via a response to this request or by placing your name next to a vacant position on the "Usher List" in the Member Room. Please contact Will Belitz (920-693-8837 or Cellular 920-946-6617) as questions arise. Thank you for serving your congregation.
- 4. **WELS Youth Rally** This summer our Youth Group will be attending the WELS International Youth Rally in Fort Collins, Co. This week-long event is an amazing opportunity for teens to get together with other teens from around the world who share the same faith. We have a group of 25 people that will be attending this rally. The cost for our group is over \$19,000 just for registration and travel expenses. Please consider supporting the Youth Group. If you would like to help with costs of the trip, but couldn't attend the meal on March 20th, please label any special donations for "Youth Group". If you have any questions, contact Mike Leahy mleahy@live.com
- 5. **Office Hours Over Easter Break** Since there isn't school from Monday, April 1st Friday, April 5th, there will be limited office hours that week. The office will be open on Wednesday, April 3rd from 12:00 4:00 p.m. and Friday, April 5th from 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m..
- 6. **Easter Flowers** can be picked up AFTER the last worship service on Sunday. Flowers that can not be picked up on Sunday will be put on a table by the window in the Harvest Room during the office hours listed above. They will be watered, if needed, until pick-up.
- 7. **Open Gym** A weekly open gym will soon be restarting. (This is intended as a primarily member event.) If there is a certain day that works better for your schedule, please contact Logan Schroeder at loganschroeder92@gmail.com.
- 8. **The 2024 weekly window washing schedules** for St. Paul's are printed and can be found in the member room. There is also a sign-up sheet to fill in some open dates. If you would like more information or need to be removed from the current schedule, please contact Trevor Wehrmann.

THE FLOWERS IN FRONT CHURCH ARE IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING LOVED ONES:

Justin & Erin Radue	Tricia Dittmar
Ed & Sandy Strauss	Dean Strauss, Arline & Reuben Hoppe
Loren & Dawn Reinemann	Lee Reinemann
David & Amy Hoppe	Dean Strauss, Arline & Reuben Hoppe
Sue Kober	Bob Kober, Melvin & Janet Bitter
Carl & Marilyn Toepel	Rev. & Mrs. Henry Meyer
Dan & Rachel RehbeinDon &	y Wilma Rehbein, Clarence & Mary Thiel
Carol Reinemann	Lee Reinemann
Wendy & Darin Reinemann	Lee Reinemann
Pat Loersch	Jerry Loersch
Ione Prange	Gaylord Prange Jr.
Ann Austreng	Janice Krueger, Bernetta Brendel
I AM THE Resurrection THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE EVEN THOUGH THEY DIE	