

Hope
not
Doubt

April 19, 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Howards Grove, WI



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We want to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this worship service! Especially to you who are guests and visitors, WELCOME!

We at St. Paul's Lutheran share a common belief in **Jesus** as **our Savior** from sin and as the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, revealed in the Bible. We want to share God's Word with as many people as possible because we know that Jesus lived, died and rose from death to save us and all people. We're happy to have the opportunity to share the saving truths of the Bible with you and yours!

We hope that you will worship with us again!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Coronavirus situation: Since we can't all gather in one room for worship this weekend, our service can be viewed online through links from our website, stpaulshowardsgrove.org. There will also be a limited range radio broadcast throughout our church parking lot on Sunday morning at 8:00 and 10:30 am on FM 88.3.

Communion: This week the office is open on Tuesday and Friday. Please contact Pastor Mueller ahead of time to schedule an appointment if you desire communion. During these times, offerings can also be dropped off and scrip purchased.

DVDs: There will be a small number of DVDs of this weekend's worship service available to be picked up from the office. They will be ready by Monday afternoon. In order to ensure cleanliness, you do not need to return a DVD. Please consider a small monetary donation (\$2) to cover the cost of the DVD if you take one.

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 (pre K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

AARON T. MUELLER, PASTOR
pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.207.2316 (cell)

ADAM BODE, PASTOR
pastorbode@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.224.2961 (cell)

CHAD MAROHN, PRINCIPAL
chad.marohn@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
414.323.1915 (cell)

STEFANI LEVERENZ, SECRETARY
secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org
920.565.3780 (church)
920.946.6092 (cell)

**ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
441 Millersville Ave.
Howards Grove, WI 53083
920.565.3780
www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a
Congregation in the Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Synod.**



HOPE not DOUBT

In the face of doubt, Christ gives us proof and peace. To the doubting disciples, he gave certain proof that led to certain peace. Through his Word and sacraments, Jesus gives the same proof to all people of all time. "Peace be with you," said our Lord. Then he sent his people forth with this message of peace based on the proof of his resurrection.

WELCOME

HYMN

This Joyful Eastertide | 160

- 1 This joyful Eastertide away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.**

Refrain:

**Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: but now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

- 2 Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.**

Refrain

- 3 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.**

Refrain

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee | 402 v. 1

**1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee | 402 v. 2

**2 May thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray. Almighty God, we have celebrated the mystery of our Lord's resurrection from the dead. Help us to show the power of his resurrection in all that we say and do; through your Son, Jesus Christ,

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

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Peter preached on Pentecost that people witnessed Jesus doing miracles, being crucified, and raised from the dead.

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them:

²² “Men of Israel, hear these words! Jesus the Nazarene was a man recommended to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man, who was handed over by God’s set plan and foreknowledge, you killed by having lawless men nail him to a cross. ²⁴ He is the one God raised up by freeing him from the agony of death, because death was not able to hold him in its grip.

²⁵ “Indeed, David says concerning him: I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. ²⁶ Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced. My flesh also will rest in hope, ²⁷ because you will not abandon my life to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. ²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life. You will fill me with joy in your presence.

²⁹ “Gentlemen, brothers, I can speak confidently to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹ he saw what was coming and spoke about the resurrection of Christ, saying that he was neither abandoned to the grave nor did his flesh see decay.

³² “This Jesus is the one God has raised up. We are all witnesses of that.”

HYMN

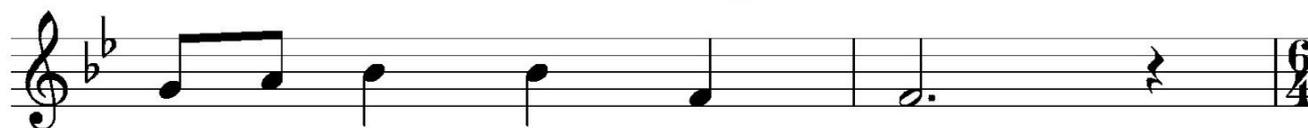
Jesus, Priceless Treasure | 349 v. 1, 3, 5



1. Je sus, price - less trea - sure,
 3. Sa tan, I de - fy thee;
 5. Hence, all fear and sad - ness!



Source of pur - est plea - sure,
 Death, I now de - cry thee;
 For the Lord of glad - ness,



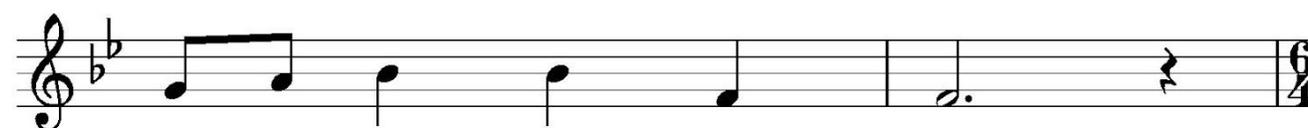
Tru - est friend to me.
 Fear, I bid thee cease.
 Je - sus, en - ters in.



Ah, how long in an - guish
 World, thou shalt not harm me
 Those who love the Fa - ther,



Shall my spir - it lan - guish,
 Nor thy threats a - larm me
 Though the storms may ga - ther,



Yearn - ing, Lord, for thee?
 While I sing of peace.
 Still have peace with in.

Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine!
Pain or loss or shame or cross
Yea, what - e'er I here must bear,

I will suf - fer naught to hide ___ thee,
Shall not from my Sa - vior move ___ me
Thou art still my pur - est plea - sure,

Naught I ask be - side thee,
Since he chose to love me.
Je - sus, price - less tre - sure!

Naught I ask be - side thee.
Since he chose to love me.
Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

Jesus appeared to Thomas to chase away his doubts; he relieves our doubt with his Word.

¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you." ²² After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ Whenever you forgive people's sins,

they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴ But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶ After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.”

²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰ Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

NICENE CREED

**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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Sons and Daughters of the King* | 165 v. 1, 6, 8

- 1 O sons and daughters of the King,
Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 "Thomas, behold my side," said he,
"My hands, my feet, my body see;
And doubt not, but believe in me."
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 8 Blessed are they that have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been;
In life eternal they shall reign.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Check Your Spiritual Pulse
Put your finger here * See his hands

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he gave us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴into an inheritance that is undying, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you. ⁵Through faith you are being protected by God's power for the salvation that is ready to be revealed at the end of time.

⁶Because of this you rejoice very much, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various kinds of trials ⁷so that the proven character of your faith—which is more valuable than gold, which passes away even though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, yet by believing in him, you are filled with a joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹because you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Online giving options available



In thanks for the victory Christ gives us over death, we bring him a generous portion of all we receive. Offerings may be dropped in the box under the canopy today, or brought to the office this week, Tuesday (8 - 5:30 pm) or Friday (7:00 am - 4:30 pm).

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee | 402 v. 3, 4

**3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread,
Be thou my guide. Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**

**4 When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll, blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove;
Oh, bear me safe above, a ransomed soul! Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

CHRIST OUR GLORY:

Words & Music: Nathan Stiff & David Zimmer, © 2019, Sovereign Grace Worship. Reprinted with permission under CCLI LICENSE #CSPL155743. All rights reserved.

HYMNS:

Words: Public domain.

SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Aaron Mueller

PIANIST: Gillian Curia

MUSICIANS: Rev. Adam Bode, Samuel Eickhoff, and Abigail Phelps

ALTAR GUILD: Konni Harbach, Dawn Marten, Sheryl Nehls, Lisa Olson, and Carol Reinemann

AV COMMITTEE HELPERS: Nathan Kracht, Lisa Marten, and Dan Rehbein

**Please check our website for updates on devotional,
Bible study, and worship opportunities!**