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RESURRECTION REALITY

LIGHT

April 11, 13, and 14, 2024

The word darkness is defined as “the partial or total absence of light.” A secondary definition is “wickedness or evil.” In Scripture darkness often represents judgment and the state of being for the unbeliever. In short, it symbolizes the spiritual condition of those who are separated from God and immersed in sin. It is with these thoughts in mind that we approach the worship of our risen and living Savior today, hearing his gracious invitation to come into the light and live in God’s light. One resurrection reality is that Jesus is the Light and that in him is no darkness at all.



WELCOME TO ST. PAUL’S – CONNECTION CARD

Thank you for joining us in worship. Please complete a Connection Card, sharing any questions or prayer requests you might have. You can fill out the card online and find other resources by scanning the QR Code.

CHILDCARE EVERY SUNDAY 7:45 – 10:45 am in east wing of the church.

SUNDAY KIDS CLUB FOR 3K – GRADE 5 9:30 – 10:30 am at the school. Register online at stpaulmuskego.org/kidsclub.

ACCESSIBILITY A hearing loop system and large-print worship folders are available.

QUESTIONS OR NEED ASSISTANCE? Visit the Welcome Center in the lobby where a greeter will be happy to assist you.

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN RED 147, vv. 1-3

Like the Golden Sun Ascending

Like the golden sun ascending, Breaking through the gloom of night,
On the earth its glory spending So that darkness takes to flight,
Thus my Jesus from the grave And death's dismal, dreadful cave
Rose triumphant Easter morning At the early purple dawning.

Thanks to you, O Christ victorious! Thanks to you, O Lord of Life!
Death has now no power o'er us, You have conquered in the strife.
Thanks because you did arise And have opened paradise!
None can fully sing the glory Of the resurrection story.

You have died for my transgression; All my sins on you were laid.
You have won for me salvation; On the cross my debt was paid.
From the grave I shall arise And shall meet you in the skies.
Death itself is transitory; I shall lift my head in glory.

M In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

M Sisters and brothers in Christ, no matter who we are, we have all failed at times to give witness to the love and grace of our God in Christ Jesus.

C **Like Peter, following his denial of the Lord Jesus, we wonder why Jesus would choose to use us to extend his kingdom to the world around us.**

M We miss the point. It is because we ourselves are broken that we can speak into the lives of those around us who are also broken. Remembering this, as we come before God in worship, we freely confess our brokenness and sin, knowing that in Jesus we find healing.

All **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.**

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.

C **Amen.**

M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

RESPONSE HYMN RED 265, vv. 1-3

This Is the Feast of Victory

**This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing, and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

HOLY BAPTISM (*Sunday 9:30 am*)

Red Hymnal, page 12

Evelyn Grace Bressler

Daughter of Derek and Angela (nee Romans) Bressler, born August 1, 2023

Christopher Daniel Smith

Son of Devon and Jennifer (nee Kreuzpaintner) Smith, born January 22, 2024

Edwin James Sturdevant

Son of Steven and Kimberly (nee Thalman) Sturdevant, born January 17, 2024

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, through your death and resurrection, you lift up this fallen world from the despair that sin and death bring.

C **Lift us up. Through your forgiving love, fill our hearts with hope and joy.**

M Make us bold to share with others the story of how your love and grace rescues us,

C **that many more may come to know the peace that only you can give.**

M For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

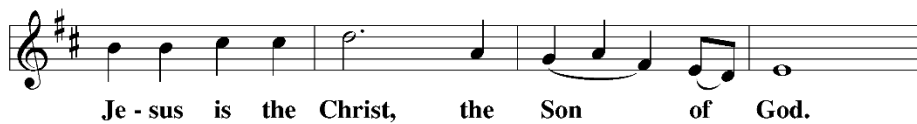
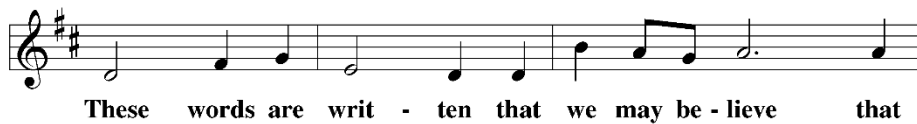
C **and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Acts 3:11-20, Bible page 1093

Peter healed a crippled beggar, drawing a large crowd. Peter used that opportunity to share a meaningful message about the Light of the world, whom the people of Jerusalem asked Pilate to crucify.

VERSE OF THE DAY



GOSPEL

Luke 24:36-49, Bible page 1061

The risen Savior gives us peace. He also gives us a mission. We are to share the message of the Light of the world with the world.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The 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 RED 155, vv. 1-4

Christ the Lord Is Risen Again

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n again;
Christ has broken death's strong chain.
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
Singing evermore on high: Hallelujah!

3 He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us, and hears our cry: Hallelujah!

2 He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today.
We, too, sing for joy and say: Hallelujah!

4 He whose path no records tell
Has descended into hell;
He the strong man armed has bound
And in highest heav'n is crowned. Hallelujah!

SERMON

1 John 1:5-10, Bible page 1228

Pastor David Kuehl

After the sermon the congregation sings:

He who slumbered in the grave
Is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings
That the Lamb is King of kings. Hallelujah!

Now he bids us tell abroad
How the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiv'n,
How we, too, may enter heav'n. Hallelujah!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

DISMISSAL OF ONLINE WORSHIPERS (Sunday 9:30 am)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



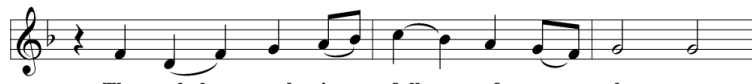
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Practice

The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meal. In this meal Jesus expresses his fellowship with us by giving us his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. In this meal we also express our fellowship with each other, that is, that we are united in a common confession of faith. We at St. Paul's want everyone to enjoy this fellowship meal. However, we cannot ask someone to express agreement with us until we give that person an opportunity to discover what we teach. That is why we schedule frequent membership classes to provide an overview of our teachings. If you are not a member of our Lutheran denomination, please speak with one of the pastors before joining us at the altar. Thank you.

Non-alcoholic wine (light-colored wine in tray) and gluten-free wafers (at Communion rail) are available.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN BLUE 713

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world; The star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all; The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God; I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path And show me the way to the Father.
In him there is no darkness at all; The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ; I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all; The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN RED 562

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, Of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story Because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings As nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting To hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story That I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and his love.

CLOSING PRAYER

M Lord Jesus Christ,
C send us out with confidence in your Word

M to tell the world of your saving acts
C and bring glory to your name.

M We praise you now and forevermore.
C Amen.

BLESSING

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.

ST. PAUL'S CONNECTION