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RESURRECTION REALITY
THE LIVING LORD PRODUCES ACTIVE FAITH
April 25, 27, and 28, 2024

Our beliefs shape our behavior. We believe that Christ's resurrection inevitably shapes how we live our lives. However, it is not simply the facts of the resurrection that shape our behavior. It is the person of the resurrection. Jesus lives! Therefore, through his Word, he is able to work on our minds and hearts, molding them to his perfect will. Here is a resurrection reality. Jesus fills us with his Spirit, not only so that we have faith, but also so that we produce the fruits of faith he seeks.



WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S – CONNECTION CARD

Thank you for joining us in worship. Please complete a Connection Card so we can provide God's people here at St. Paul's with the best spiritual care. You can also fill out the card online 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.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC MEDITATION (Sunday)

Sonta No. 27

*By Johann Pezel and Arr. Leon F. Brown
St. Paul's Brass Ensemble*

BELLS AND WELCOME

OPENING HYMN RED 168

With High Delight Let Us Unite

With high delight Let us unite

In songs of sweet jubilation.

You pure in heart, Each take your part,

Sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.

To set us free Forever, he Is ris'n and sends To all earth's ends

Good news to save ev'ry nation.

True God, he first From death has burst
Forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy Shall vanquished lie;
His death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be Like victory O'er death and grave,"
Said he, who gave His life for us, life renewing.

Let praises ring; Give thanks and bring
To Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed By word and deed
To ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall his love Give us above, From misery And death set free,
All joy and full consolation.

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

M Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, in his letter to the Romans, Paul laments the inborn nature that all too often takes control of his thinking and his behaviors. He says:

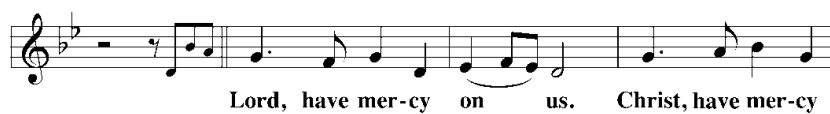
C **"I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do, this I keep on doing" (Romans 7:15).**

M Throughout the pages of Scripture, God amply warns us about the enemy within. In love, he has provided us with the tools and weapons we need to overcome this enemy. Still, we pay little attention to those warnings and fail to take up the armor he provides. We have good reason to be sorry and ashamed and to be cast out of God's presence forever. Yet God's mercies are new every morning. Through Christ, God grants forgiveness and renewed power to choose the right and say "no" to the wrong. Let us, therefore, confess our many sins to God, that we may find renewed strength once again in his forgiving love.

All **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C Amen.

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Refrain

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.

Refrain

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
And honor, blessing, and glory are his.

Refrain

Sing with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn of all creation.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Father God, through the suffering and death of your Son you lifted us up from death and despair.

C **Through his resurrection you've given us the priceless gift of hope—forgiveness and eternal life!**

M Because you live, we too shall live!

C **Help us remain steadfast in this hope, no matter what the tempter may send our way.**

M We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now

C **and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:32-37, Bible page 1094

In the early church, as the apostles preached the resurrection of Christ, the living Lord produced the fruits of unity and generosity.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:18-24, Bible page 1230

The Apostle John encourages us to demonstrate living faith in loving words and actions.

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 BLUE 709

Christ the Vine

The organist (and Brass Ensemble on Sunday) will play through the hymn one time before the congregation begins to sing.



1 I long to serve my Sav - ior, to seek what's good and right,
2 There came, with grace un - spar - ing, a vine from heav'n a - bove,



to trust and nev - er wa - ver, to walk in truth and light.
its branch - es meant for bear - ing the fruits of self - less love.



But con - duct pure and ho - ly re - quires a pow'r not mine;
This vine is Christ who of - fered his life up - on a tree;



a branch is fruit - ful on - ly when an - chored in a vine.
for all my sin he suf - fered and made a branch of me.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

**And so I'll serve my Savior with pow'r that he provides,
for he, my blest Redeemer, within my soul abides.
The fruit of selfless giving will grow by God's design
as I, the branch, keep living by faith in Christ the vine.**

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 It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

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.



C: A - men.

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 RED 486

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

**Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.**

**Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.**

**Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?**

**Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you,
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.**

**Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.**

CLOSING PRAYER

M O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C **And his mercy endures forever.**

M We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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