

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ * ~ APRIL 12, 2026



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

“Being Transformed By God’s Grace To Love And Serve.”

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Thanksgiving For Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

We gather in the name of ✝ the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

#379

Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

“This is the Feast”

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



please be seated

First Reading

Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³² “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1: 3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

"Celtic Hallelujah"

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Gospel

John 20: 19-31

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.*please be seated*

Sermon

Pastor Kristen Koch

please stand in body or spirit

Hymn of the Day

“We Walk By Faith”

#635

Apostle’s 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

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated

Offering



please stand in body or spirit

Offertory

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

#182

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

by Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

#363

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing”

#385

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

#384

Dismissal

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



“DRAW NEAR TO GOD”



Welcome: Welcome to worship on this Second Sunday of Easter! As we continue to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection, we gather to encounter the risen Christ, who brings peace, heals our wounds, and turns our doubts into faith. Join us in singing "Alleluia" and proclaiming that

Jesus is Lord!

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: “Unspoken prayer concerns”, Ellen Harms, Ken Holland, Mary Haluptzok, Kevin Tatum, Dennis & Claudia Moellman, Gene Beckman, Jerome Goosen, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Norene Ives, Jon Beckman, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, and Kyle Luetjen.



Jim Kammeyer, Fred John Kreisel and Family (cousin of Ruth Ann Kreisel), Junior Garr, Heidi Hopp (grandmother of Nicole Rice), Mike Wingerter (brother of Susan Goosen), Kathy Harms, Deanna Browning, Kylie Simon, Hazel Karstons, Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Larry Haase (brother-in-law of Gene Beckman), David Mobely (brother-in-law of Randy Healan), Joyce Jones (sister of Connie Gerken), Kris Barnes (friend of Julie Cronin), Joe Campbell, Cliff Eckhoff, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home & Homebound: Vern Dean Bohling, Shirley Cash and Larry & Judy Schlesselman: *Anew*. Eugene Beckman, Florence VonHolten & Arlene Schlesselman: *GSCC*. Earl Bauer: *Windsor Nursing Home*.

Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: Rank E3 Jensen Hamilton (grandson of Dennis Hamilton), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen), J. Phillips Navy Petty Officer E-4 MMN (nephew of Katy Schlesselman), Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Major Joseph Strathman.



One Stitch at a Time: The Sewing Group is back at it again. They will meet **every Monday** at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome to join!

Meeting: The Council Meeting will be held on **April 15th** at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room.



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **April 16th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.

Holy Humor: On the weekend of Sunday, **April 19th**, the 3rd Sunday of Easter, we will celebrate Holy Humor. Tradition holds that the days following Easter were reserved for partying, feasting and even playing some practical jokes. Some would say that this is because God played the biggest joke on the devil by beating death forever. We continue in this joyous tradition through the use of Holy Humor in worship. There **WILL** be causal worship that weekend, on **Saturday, April 18th**.



Skating Party: Members and friends are invited to an afternoon of fun at the Wheel Thing Skate Center in Sedalia! Join us on **Sunday, April 19th**, from 2:00-4:00 pm. We have the whole rink reserved for ourselves that afternoon. A suggested donation of \$5-10 per skater would help offset the cost. The snack bar will not be open but we can bring our own snacks to share. Please RSVP at church so we know how many to expect! Lace up those skates and we'll see you there!



Circle: Esther Circle will meet on Monday, **April 20th** at 7:00pm at the home of Rhonda Schlesselman.

Worship and Music Committee: The Worship & Music committee will meet on Wednesday, **April 22nd** at 3:30pm.



Save the Date: Join us after worship on **Sunday, April 26th**, for a luncheon to celebrate the music ministry of Lois Viebrock. Lois has retired from playing the organ after 65 years and we want to honor her. This will be a catered luncheon with a short program to give thanks for her service to the church.

Newsletter: The Sunbeam committee will meet on Wednesday, **April 29th** at 3:00pm.



Education Scholarship: The Central States Women of the ELCA are offering the Lynn Starr Education Scholarship to the women of any ELCA congregation who are seeking a post-high school education. The scholarship is a one-year non-renewable scholarship (not exceeding \$1,000). Applications must be **postmarked by April 30, 2026**. The applications (containing additional information) can be found at each usher's stand. The following St. Paul's women have been awarded a scholarship over the past three years: Lauren Bailey, Alyssa Fowler, and Jenna Nash. For questions, please see Janice.

Directory Update: It's time to update the Church directory! There are copies of the directory located at the usher stands. Please update your information as needed. If everything is correct, please mark them with a checkmark. Thank you so much!



EVERY SHEEP COUNTS!
IS YOUR INFO UP TO DATE?



Graduates: As the end of the year approaches, we want to be sure we are remembering and honoring everyone who will be graduating. We will honor our high school seniors in worship on Sunday, **May 3rd**. If you or someone in your family is having a graduation this year, please be sure to let the church office know.

~ * ~ **EVENTS COMING UP** ~ * ~

Calling All Fishermen! We're in need of fish for our upcoming Fish Fry on Sunday, **May 31st**. If you're a fisherman or know someone who can help, we'd love to have your catch to make this event successful. Your support will help us serve delicious meals and raise funds for the mission. Please contact Krista Poe if you're able to contribute. We appreciate your generosity and willingness to help! Thank you and God bless!



Summer Events: Attention youth and families, please mark your calendar for our summer events! Vacation Bible School: **July 20 - 24** & Mid-MO Bible Camp: **July 12 - 16**.

~ * ~ **Community Events** ~ * ~

Come on over! This afternoon, it is time for the 2026 Easter Cantata sponsored by Cole Camp Regional Ministry. This beautiful collection of music spotlights the crucified and risen Christ, preformed by the Cole Camp Community Choir. Pre-music at 3:45, the program starts at 4:00 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cole Camp. The cantata is free to attend, yet if you would like to help the choir purchase new music a free-will basket will be available. Come and enjoy!



Fundraiser: Today, from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, the American Legion Post 305 Auxiliary is hosting a baked potato bar dinner at the American Legion Building in Cole Camp, MO. A free-will offering will support many of the Legion's activities. Thank you for your support!

St. Paul's Lutheran School Spaghetti Dinner & Auction: Join us for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Auction on **Friday, April 24th at 6:00 PM** (*note the new day and time this year!*) Enjoy a delicious meal, bid on a variety of auction items, and support St. Paul's Lutheran School. A portion of proceeds will benefit the school's Hot Lunch Program. The address is St. Paul's Lutheran School, 701 S. Massachusetts Ave, Sedalia, MO All are welcome for a fun evening of food, fellowship, and giving!



Can you help? The Cole Camp Food Pantry is in need of 2-3 volunteers who would be able to fill in when regular volunteers cannot be there. The Pantry is open Wednesdays from 10am-12noon, Thursdays from 3pm-5pm, and Saturdays from 10am-12noon. Volunteers must be 18+ years old, out of high school, and not a client of the Food Pantry. If you have questions or interest, please contact Sheila Sabala, Food Pantry Manager, at (816) 559 -1111. Thank you!

Pool Fundraiser: Make a splash for a big cause! Join us for a delicious and meaningful community event at the **Annual Cole Camp Swimming Pool Fundraiser Dinner** on **April 19th** from **11:00 am-1:00 pm** in St. Paul's Lutheran Church Gymnasium. The menu will include mouth-watering pulled pork, a classic bean roll, savory potatoes and homemade dessert. A free will donation will be offered - give what you can to support pool operating expenses and keep this community treasure going strong! There will also be opportunities to sign up for swim lessons and take advantage of special membership deals for the upcoming season. Bring your family, invite your friends, and come hungry—every bite helps make a difference! Let's work together to keep our pool a place for fun, fitness, and community all summer long. Help keep our local pool open and thriving for everyone to enjoy this summer!



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Sunday, April 12: | 9:00 am | Sunday School |
| | 10:00 am | Worship Service |
| | | Holy Communion by Stations |
| Monday, April 13: | 9:00 am | Sewing Group |
| Wednesday, April 15: | 6:00 pm | Council Meeting |
| Thursday, April 16: | 8:00 am | BCHD |
| Saturday, April 18: | 5:30 pm | Casual Worship |
| Sunday, April 19: | 8:45 am | Confirmation Class |
| | 9:00 am | SS / Adult Class |
| | 10:00 am | Worship Service |
| | | Holy Communion by Stations |
| | 2:00 pm | Skating Party |



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

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|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| April 15 | Council Meeting |
| April 19 | Skating Party |
| April 20 | Esther Circle |
| April 22 | Worship & Music Committee |
| April 26 | Lois Viebrock Retirement Luncheon |
| April 29 | Sunbeam Committee |
| May 10 | Mother's Day |
| May 24 | Confirmation Sunday |
| May 25 | Memorial Day |
| May 31 | World Hunger Fish Fry |

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers..... The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister..... Pastor Kristen Koch
Organist.....Sandy Schlesselman
Pianist.....Jeannette VonHolten
AV TechniciansRuss Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar Guild..... Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers..... Victoria Fox, Assistant Head Usher
.....Scott Gerken, Eric Kullman, John Oelrichs & Braden Poe



2nd Sunday of Easter ~*~ April 12, 2026

Assisting Minister Tom Oelrichs
Communion Assistants..... Stephanie Randall & Trisha Goosen
ReaderKaylan Poe
Children's Sermon..... Pastor Kristen Koch
Acolytes Kelsey Viebrock & Gannon Elliott
Flowers.....Easter Lillies



3rd Sunday of Easter ~*~ April 19, 2026

Assisting Minister Melinda Strathman
Communion Assistants..... Luther League
ReaderLesa Warden
Children's Sermon..... Joyce Schlesselmann
AcolytesCharlotte Zeller & Tristan Fox
Flowers..... Tammy Heimsoth