

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 19, 2026



THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

**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.



For centuries in Eastern Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant countries, the week following Easter Sunday, including "Bright Sunday" (the Sunday after Easter), was observed by the faithful as "days of joy and laughter" with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Churchgoers and pastors played practical jokes on each other, drenched each other with water, told jokes, sang, and danced. The custom was rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. The early theologians called it "Risus paschalis - the Easter laugh."

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Opening Litany

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We believe in God, in whose image we are made.

We live, we love, we laugh, because we are like God.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.

He had the last laugh on the devil when He rose from the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, coequal and coeternal with the Father and the Son.

Our counselor, our guide, our motivator - the Spirit is truly our joy!

Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too seriously, when we don't claim the happiness that is rightfully ours as your children, when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world.

Restore to us the joy of our salvation, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Alleluia! Amen.

Opening Hymn

"Alleluia! Christ is Arisen!"

#375

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.**

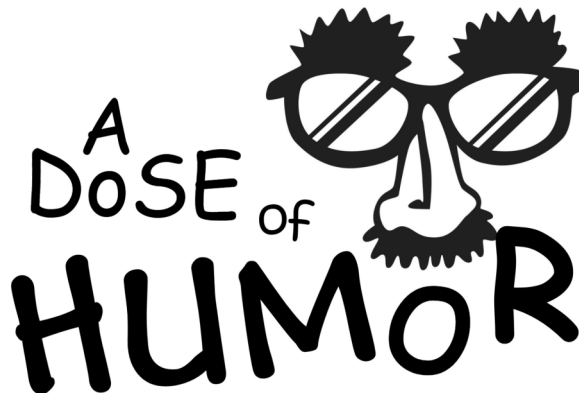
A Holy Exchange

We gather on this holy day to celebrate the work of our God, whom we call Abba, Father.

We gather on this holy day to celebrate the work of our God, whom we call Andy.

People of God, umm, I've heard God called the great "I Am" but never Andy. That's can't be right.

Well sorry, Pastor Stephen, but you're wrong. God's name is Andy. Haven't your heard the song? *Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy tells me I am his own.*



Hymn of Praise

I've Got the Joy Joy Joy

George William Cooke (1848-1923)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'I've Got the Joy Joy Joy' in 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with the lyrics 'I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart down in my heart down in my heart I've got the'. The second staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart down in my heart to stay. And I'm so hap-py, so ver-y'. The third staff continues with 'hap - py, I've got the love of Je - sus in my heart, _____ And I'm so'. The fourth staff concludes with 'hap - py, so ver - y hap - py, I've got the love of Je - sus in my heart.' The website 'bethsnotes.com' is printed in the bottom right corner of the score.

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart down in my heart down in my heart I've got the
Refrain
joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart down in my heart to stay. And I'm so hap-py, so ver-y
hap - py, I've got the love of Je - sus in my heart, _____ And I'm so
hap - py, so ver - y hap - py, I've got the love of Je - sus in my heart.

bethsnotes.com

v2. I've got the peace that passes understanding down in my heart...Refrain

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. In the breaking of the bread, open our eyes to your redeeming work. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do. Point us always to the joy to come, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading

Psalms 116: 1-4, 12-19

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

¹²How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people.

¹⁵**Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God’s people,

¹⁹**in the courts of the LORD’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1: 17-23

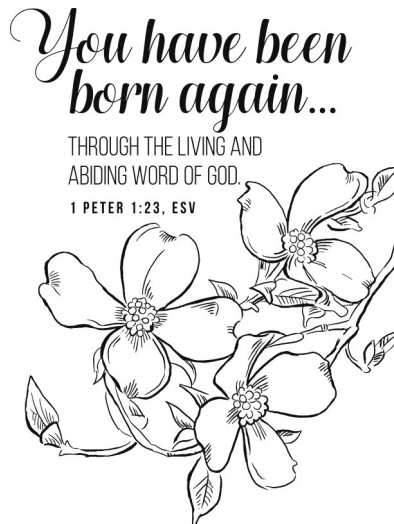
¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. ²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Joyce Schlesselmann



please stand in body or spirit
Gospel Acclamation

This Is The Day

Words and Music by
Les Garrett



2. This is the day, this is the day that the Lord was raised, that the Lord was raised;



We will re-joyce, we will re-joyce and be glad in it, and be glad in it



This is the day that the Lord was __ raised; We will re-joyce and be glad in it.



This is the day, this is the day that the Lord was raised.

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Gospel

Luke 24: 13-35

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself

came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Because He Lives (Amen)

Words and Music by
Ed Cash, Gloria Gaither,
Jason Ingram, Matt Maher,
Daniel Carson, William J. Gaither
and Chris Tomlin

INTRO

$\text{♩} = 84$ Am F C Am F C Am F

VERSE 1

1. I be - lieve in the Son;

6 C Am F C Am F C

I be - lieve in the Ris - en One; I be - lieve I o - ver - come by the

CHORUS 1a

11 F Am G F G Am G/B C G/B C Am

pow - er of His blood; A - men, a - men, I'm a - live, I'm a - live be - cause He

16 G F G Am G/B C G/B C F G

lives; A - men, a - men, let my song join the one that nev - er ends be - cause He

VERSE 2

21 Am F C Am F C Am F C

lives. 2. I was dead in the grave; I was

27 Am F C Am F C

cov - ered in sin and shame; I heard mer - cy call my name; He

CHORUS 1b

31 F Am G F G Am G/B C G C F
 rolled the stone a - way. A - men, a - men, I'm a - live, I'm a - live be - cause He
 36 G F G Am G/B C G C F G
 lives; A - men, a - men, let my song join the one that nev - er ends. Be - cause He

BRIDGE

C F G C F G
 lives, I can face to - mor - row; Be - cause He lives ev - 'ry fear is gone; I

CHORUS 1c

45 C/E F Am G F F G
 know He holds my life, my fu - ture in His hand. A - men, a -
 50 Am G/B C G/B C F G F G Am G/B
 men, I'm a - live, I'm a - live be - cause He lives; A - men, a - men, let my

CHORUS 1d

55 C G/B C F G F G Am G/B
 song join the one that nev - er ends; A - men, a - men, I'm a -
 59 C G C F G F G Am G/B
 live, I'm a - live be - cause He lives; A - men, a - men, let my

ENDING

63 C G/B C F G Am F C Am F
 song join the one that nev - er ends be - cause He lives; Be - cause He lives.

Prayers of Intercession

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

Sharing The Peace

Ha - La - La - La

Words and Music by
David Graham

CHORUS

Cmaj⁷ Em⁷ F C^{sus} C Dm⁷ Cmaj⁷/E

Ha - la - la - la - la - la - le - lu - ia. Ha - la - la - la - la - la -

4 Dm⁷/F D⁷/F# G^{sus} G Cmaj⁷ Em⁷ F C^{sus} C Dm⁷ Cmaj⁷/E

- lu - ia. Ha - la - la - la - la - la - le - lu - ia. Ha - la - la - la - la - la -

Fine

le - lu - ia.

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please be seated
Offering



please stand in body or spirit

Offertory



Refrain

So rise— and shine and give God the glor- y, glor- y, rise— and shine and
give God the glor- y, glor- y, rise and shine and give God the glor- y, glor- y, child- ren of the Lord.

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, Let Us Eat”

#491

“I Come With Joy”

#482

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

May the God of Issac, that is “laughter”, the Christ, who for the joy set
before Him endured the cross, and the Spirit of Joy be with you both now
and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“I’m So Glad”

#860

Dismissal

Alleluia! Go out with peace, joy and laughter to share the good news that
Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

"CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA"



Welcome: "Grace and peace to you from him who is, who was, and who is to come. Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in the name of the risen 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 will meet **every Monday** at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. Everyone is welcome to join!

Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **April 23rd**, from 8:00am until 10:00am to assist you with your health care needs.



Skating Party: Members and friends are invited to an afternoon of fun at the Wheel Thing Skate Center in Sedalia! Join us **this afternoon**, 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. 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.

An invitation to a Float Brainstorming meeting on Wednesday, **April 22**. For all interested, we will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. The theme of this year's fair is "Small Town Salute" - a patriotic theme commemorating our country's 250th anniversary. **Bring your ideas...see you there!** (If you have ideas, but have a conflict with the date, contact Rhonda Schlesselman.)



Women of the ELCA Mid-Missouri Gathering will meet for their Spring Gathering on Saturday, **April 25, 2026**, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Russellville, MO. Registration for the Gathering will begin at 9:00 a.m. The theme is "I am Worthy!". All women are invited to attend. We will be carpooling for the drive to Russellville, anyone in need of a ride please contact Janice.



Let's Celebrate! Join us after worship on **Sunday, April 26**, 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.

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.



"Moving Up" Celebration - The Preschool will hold a "Moving Up" celebration for the preschool children "moving up" to kindergarten in the fall on Saturday afternoon, **May 2** at 3:00 p.m. This year's graduates are Lydia Rodewald and Colton Remington. All preschoolers will present in a brief program, followed by the graduation ceremony. Cookies and punch will be served. Our preschool teacher, Annette Vogel, is accepting enrollments for the upcoming 2026-27 school year. Anyone interested or having questions may reach Annette by contacting the church office (660-668-3537).



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

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.



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!

Celebration: Pastor Kim is celebrating the release of her second book, "Small Steps: Blessings to Lift Your Soul on the Pilgrimage of Life," with a Launch Party on Friday, **May 1**, at WAM in downtown Cole Camp. Stop by anytime between 5:00-8:00 pm. Kim will share a reading from her book at 6:00 pm. You can still preorder a copy yourself or she will have books available for purchase that night. Please join us!



~ * ~ **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! Mid-MO Bible Camp: **July 12 - 16** & Vacation Bible School: **July 20 - 24**






Baccalaureate: The Cole Camp High School Class of 2026 will have Baccalaureate following Senior Scholarship Awards (around 7:45 pm) in the High School Gym on **May 6**. We'd love to see you there!

Pool Fundraiser: Join us **Today** at the **Annual Cole Camp Swimming Pool Fundraiser Dinner** from **11:00 am-1:00 pm** in St. Paul's Lutheran Church Gymnasium. The menu will include pulled pork, bean roll, savory potatoes and homemade dessert. A free will donation will be offered - give what you can to 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. Let's work together to keep our pool a place for fun, fitness, and community all summer long.



 **St. Paul's Lutheran School Spaghetti Dinner & Auction:** Join us for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Auction on **Friday, April 24 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 need is constant at the Cole Camp Food Pantry! This month, in particular, the pantry could use donations of canned fruit. Additionally, the Cole Camp Food Pantry is looking for 2-3 volunteers who are able to fill in when regular volunteers can't be there. Requirements are 18+ years of age, out of high school, and not someone who uses the pantry. Regular pantry hours are: Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, and Thursdays, 3:00-5:00 pm. Please contact Pantry Manager, Sheila Sabala, 816-559-1111, if you are interested. Thank you for your ongoing support in our community!



Concert: The State Fair Community College is hosting its annual President's Concert on Tuesday, **April 28**. A dessert reception begins at 6:15 pm featuring music by the Jazz Ensemble. The concert begins at 7:00 pm and features the concert band and two choir ensembles. This is located at the Stauffacher Theater on the SFCC campus. Admission is free!

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

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
Monday, April 20:	9:00 am	Sewing Group
Wednesday, April 22:	3:30 pm	Worship & Music Committee
Saturday, April 25:	5:30 pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, April 26:	8:45 am	Confirmation Class
	9:00 am	SS / Adult Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
	AW	Lois Viebrock's Retirement Luncheon



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

April 19	Skating Party
April 20	Esther Circle
April 22	Worship & Music Committee
April 26	Lois Viebrock Retirement Luncheon
April 29	Sunbeam Committee
May 3	Graduation Sunday
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 Stephen Zeller
Organist..... Sandy Schlesselman
Pianist Jeannette VonHolten
Altar Guild..... Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers Melisa Balke, Assistant Head Usher
..... Scott Gerken, Eric Kullman, John Oelrichs & Braden Poe



Third Sunday of Easter ~ April 19, 2026

Assisting Minister Melinda Strathman
Communion Assistants Luther League
Reader..... Lesa Warden
Children's Sermon Joyce Schlesselmann
Acolytes Charlotte Zeller & Tristen Fox
Flowers..... Tammy Heimsoth



Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 26, 2026

Assisting Minister Janice Gerken
Communion Assistants Tara Anderson & Hannah Schweitzer
Reader..... Tiffinay Nash
Children's Sermon Paul Fuelling
Acolytes Miranda Gerken & Logan Jackson
Flowers..... Suzanne Lutjen