

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran**  
Church, School, & Preschool  
1010 Adams Ave. North Fond du Lac WI 54937  
920-922-1080      [www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://www.stpaulslutherannfdl.com)

# **Easter Sunrise Service**

Easter Sunrise

April 20, 2025 – 6:30am

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**Assistive Listening Devices** are available should you or a family member need them. They can be found on the information centers in the entryway.

**Large Print Editions of Our Services** are also available for use containing all the hymns of the service printed within them. These are also available on the information centers in the entryway.

**Restrooms and a Child Training Room** should you need them are available as well. Both Men's and Women's restrooms have changing stations. Our Child Training Room is equipped with dimmable lights and audio control. They are located to the right as you exit the sanctuary.

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## **Notes Regarding Our Service:**

After the horror of Good Friday, the disciples thought they were defeated. Their Lord was dead and with Him, His promises ... or so they thought. The joy and confidence of Jesus' Resurrection would come slowly for them. For the strengthening of our faith, we will once more study the Resurrection this morning. **HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

As you prepare for worship this morning, there is no pre-service music. This silence reminds us of the quiet of the grave, within which our Savior laid for three days. We begin our service, much like the women that first Easter morning, in the darkness of grief.

However, the sound of mourning begins to fade as the narration begins to recall the Resurrection. The music also announces the Resurrection and calls us to worship. During our singing, of Hymn #453, the candles and the Paschal Candle (a symbol of the Resurrection) are lit.

The Paschal Candle (the large candle by the lectern) burns throughout the 50 days of Easter (today until Pentecost) and represents the Risen Lord shining in the splendor of His resurrection among His people. We also light it for baptisms (Romans 6) and funerals (John 11:25), as we rejoice in the hope, comfort, and victory the Resurrection brings.

## BELLS

*A voice in the darkness:*

This morning we recall the first Easter morning. Through Word and song we remember the events that took place early in the morning. We experience again the joy that overwhelmed the hearts of those believing women and our Lord's disciples.

The disciples did not understand or believe that Jesus would rise from the dead. They thought that His death meant the end of all their hopes. Because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, they spent the day huddled behind locked doors.

The women also were not expecting Jesus to rise from the dead. On the first day of the week, after the Sabbath day of rest had ended, they left their homes and walked to our Lord's grave. There they intended to perform one last act of loving service by tending to His dead body with spices. Their hearts were filled with grief and sorrow. All they knew was that Jesus, the one in whom they had put their trust, was dead.

Sometime after sunset on the Sabbath, Jesus' rose from death. He left the still-sealed tomb. He then descended into hell. As the victorious Savior, He visited the abode of the damned, where He proclaimed His victory over Satan. The Bible tells us that He disarmed the powers of evil and "made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."

No one knew that Jesus had risen yet. Shortly before sunrise, there was an earthquake. The soldiers standing guard fainted and then ran back to the city. An angel rolled the stone away from the entrance to the tomb to show the world its emptiness.

### Easter's Announcement in Song

Soloist: **Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor | CW #437:2**

*Peace at last from all Your anguish, wounds in hands and feet and side.*

*Enemies no longer mock You, scourged, abandoned, crucified.*

*Faithful women gather spices, weep for You Whom sin has slain.*

*Though they mourn, the God who guards You will not let Your death be vain.*

### **The Tomb Is Empty | CW #453**

Verse 1: Soloist acapella, Verse 2: Soloist & only melody accompanies

Verse 3-5: full accompaniment & congregation joins in as comfortable

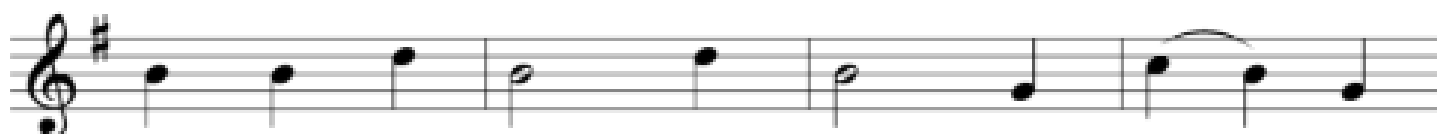
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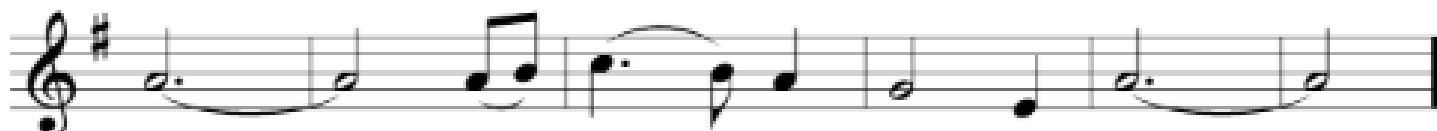
Solo: 1 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and  
Solo: 2 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and  
Cong: 3 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and  
Cong: 4 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Come and  
Cong: 5 The tomb is emp - ty, is emp - ty! Go and



see where once the bod - y lay.  
hear these words of life and peace:  
touch the stone and fold - ed shroud.  
meet the ris - en Christ our Lord  
serve all peo - ple who long to be free!

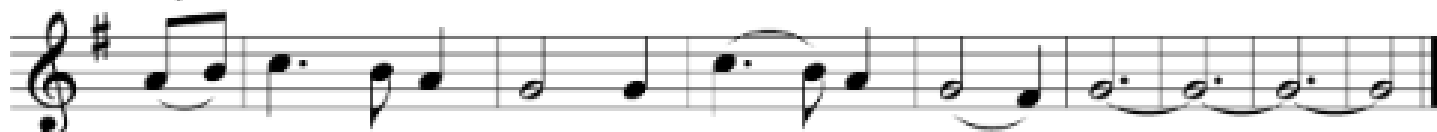


Can it be true, be true, that Je - sus  
"He is not here, not here. He lives a -  
Christ lives in - deed, in - deed. Al - le - lu -  
in whom we have, we have our vic - to -  
Raise those who sleep, who sleep in tombs of



Christ is raised to life to - day?  
gain in all your Gal - i - lees."  
ia! Be - liev - ers, shout a - loud.  
ry, in whom is life re - stored.  
fear, and give them eyes to see!

*Refrain*



Sing al - le - lu - ia! Sing al - le - lu - ia!

Text (sts. 1-4): Sylvia Dunstan, 1955-1993, alt.; (st. 5): David Haas, b. 1957

Tuner: David Haas, b. 1957

Text (sts. 1, Ref, 2-4): © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; (st. 5): © 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.

Tuner: © 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.

**EASTER ANNOUNCEMENT (loudly and with vigor)**

**M: Christ is risen!**

**C: He is risen indeed. Alleluia!!**

**INVOCATION**

We worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen!**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!!**

Rejoicing in the promises of God and marveling at the message of the Resurrection, we humbly stand before God confessing our sin.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, For sins of habit and sins of choice, For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through His called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Christ  
THE LORD  
is Risen

## **RESPONSIVE SENTENCES FOR EASTER**

Christ is arisen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!!**

This is the day the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Lord's right hand was majestic in power. The Lord's right hand shattered the enemy. In the greatness of his majesty he threw down those who opposed him.

**Death has been swallowed up in victory.**

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

**Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!**

The Lamb at the center of the throne will be our shepherd; he will lead us to springs of living water.

**And God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you made the dawn of this most holy day shine with the glory of our Lord's resurrection. Grant that we who have been raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## HYMN

*This Joyful Eastertide* | CW #449

1 This joy - ful Eas - ter - tide a - way with sin and  
 2 Death's flood has lost its chill since Je - sus crossed the  
 3 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a sea - son



sor - row! My love, the Cru - ci - fied,  
 riv - er. Lov - er of souls, from ill  
 slum - ber till trump from east to west



has sprung to life this mor - row.  
 my pass - ing soul de - liv - er.  
 shall wake the dead in num - ber.



*Refrain*  
 Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three-day pris - on,



our faith had been in vain: but now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en; but now has Christ a - ris - en!

Text: George R. Woodward, 1848–1934

Tune: Davids Psalmen, Amsterdam, 1684

Text and tune: Public domain

## THE WORD

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

### Exodus 15:1-11

*The Lord saved Israel in the waters of the Red Sea and gave the Israelites a new identity - not slaves, but God's special people and chosen nation.*

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. <sup>2</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. <sup>3</sup> The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name. <sup>4</sup> Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea. The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea. <sup>5</sup> The deep waters have covered them; they sank to the depths like stone. <sup>6</sup> Your right hand, O Lord, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy. <sup>7</sup> In the greatness of your majesty you threw down those who opposed you. You unleashed your burning anger; it consumed them like stubble. <sup>8</sup> By the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up. The surging waters stood firm like a wall; the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

<sup>9</sup> "The enemy boasted, 'I will pursue, I will overtake them. I will divide the spoils; I will gorge myself on them. I will draw my sword and my hand will destroy them.' <sup>10</sup> But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them. They sank like lead in the mighty waters. <sup>11</sup> "Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you — majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?





## PSALM HYMN

## Alleluia! Jesus Lives | CW #455

*While not based on the Psalm of the Day (Psalm 30),  
this hymn discusses the truths with which David wrestles there.*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;  
2 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice; praise him, ran-somed ones of earth.  
3 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and fre-quent sigh?  
4 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life is yours e - ter - nal - ly;



from the gloom-y house of death forth the con-quer - or has gone,  
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.  
He who died our broth-er here lives our broth-er still on high,  
joined to him, your liv - ing head, where he is, you too shall be;



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.  
Praise the Vic - tor-King, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.  
lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his Church be - low.  
you with him at his right hand vic - tor o - ver death shall stand.

Text: Karl B. Garve, 1763–1841, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887  
Text and tune: Public domain

## EPISTLE LESSON

## Colossians 3:1-4

*Our new identity includes a type of glory that, for now, is hidden from the world. That glory will be revealed when our Lord returns on the Last Day.*

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

## SENIOR CHOIR

*Crown Him Lord This Easter Day  
By Don Besig & Nancy Price*

*Please stand (if you are able) as we hear the Easter Gospel*

## **GOSPEL LESSON**

**John 20:1-18**

*The first appearance of Jesus after His resurrection was to Mary of Magdala.*

*Our new identity: "my brothers."*

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. <sup>2</sup> So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" <sup>3</sup> So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, <sup>7</sup> as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. <sup>8</sup> Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes, <sup>11</sup> but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb <sup>12</sup> and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. <sup>13</sup> They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." <sup>14</sup> At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

## HYMN

## Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia! | CW #442



1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Christ, the vic - tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Christ, who once for sin - ners bled, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has - ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - less in the sin - ners' stead. Al - le - lu - ia!  
God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now the first - born from the dead, Al - le - lu - ia!



see the place where he was laid; Al - le - lu - ia!  
"Christ is ris'n," to - day we cry; Al - le - lu - ia!  
while, in strange and awe - full strife, Al - le - lu - ia!  
throned in end - less might and pow'r, Al - le - lu - ia!



praise him for the ran - som paid. Al - le - lu - ia!  
now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
met to - geth - er death and life. Al - le - lu - ia!  
lives and reigns for - ev - er - more. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin, 11th cent., attr. Wipo of Burgundy, d. c. 1050, abr.; tr. Jane E. Leeson, 1807–1882, alt.

Tune: Robert Williams, c. 1781–1821

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

## OFFERING

*St. Paul's Chime Choir  
Risen This Day!  
by Michael Ryan*

*As the offering is gathered, if you haven't already done so, please fill out the red attendance register in your pew. **Please stand** as the offering is brought forward, joining in singing the offering hymn.*

## OFFERING HYMN:

*He's Risen, He's Risen | CW #445*



1 He's ris - en, he's ris - en, Christ Je - sus, the Lord;  
2 The foe was tri - um - phant when on Cal - va - ry  
3 But short was their tri - umph; the Sav - ior a - rose,  
4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;  
5 Then sing your ho - san - nas and raise your glad voice;



he o - pened death's pris - on, the in - car - nate Word.  
the Lord of cre - a - tion was nailed to the tree.  
and death, hell, and Sa - tan he van-quished, his foes.  
Christ rose, and now o - pen is fair E - den's door.  
pro - claim the blest ti - dings that all may re - joice.



Break forth, hosts of heav - en, in ju - bi - lant song  
In Sa - tan's do - main did the hosts shout and jeer,  
The con - quer - ing Lord lifts his ban - ner on high;  
For all our trans - gres - sions his blood does a - tone;  
Laud, hon - or, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:



and earth, sea, and moun - tain, the prais - es pro - long.  
for Je - sus was slain, whom the e - vil ones fear.  
he lives, yes, he lives, and will nev - er - more die.  
re - deemed and for - giv - en, we now are his own.  
with Fa - ther and Spir - it he ev - er shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.

Tune: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–1887

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House.

Tune: Public domain

## PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, we confess that it was our sin that caused Your Son to suffer and die. We admit that we deserve Your punishment for all eternity for our lives. We praise You eternally that You did not treat us as we deserved but that You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to free us from sin's chains and death's strong grip.

***(Sung all) I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living Head.***

***He lives triumphant from the grave,  
He lives eternally to save,  
He lives all glorious in the sky,  
He lives exalted there on high.*** (CW #441:1-2)

Gracious God, we ask as Your redeemed children that You would continue to guide us in this life. Direct us repeatedly to Your Word and Sacraments that we may be strengthened in faith as Your Holy Spirit works through them in our hearts and lives. Make us every day more and more like You until we enjoy our own resurrections into heavenly glory.

***(sung women only) He lives to bless me with His love,  
He lives to plead for me above.  
He lives my hungry soul to feed,  
He lives to help in time of need.***

***He lives to grant me rich supply,  
He lives to guide me with His eye,  
He lives to comfort me when faint,  
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.*** (CW #441:3-4)

Lord of all life and death, Guide the people of this world to the true comfort and lasting peace that can only be found in Your Word. When trouble or hardship come into this life direct them and us to that Word and the blessed assurance that You work for the good of all who love You. We come also on behalf of all those who are sick during this blessed Easter. Give them the true assurance that You can heal them in body and soul. But if it is Your will to call them to Yourself, give them and their

loved ones the comfort in knowing that those who die in the Lord never really die but awake in heaven with You.

***(sung men only) He lives to silence all my fears,  
He lives to wipe away my tears  
He lives to calm my troubled heart,  
He lives all blessings to impart.  
He lives, my kind, wise, heavenly Friend,  
He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;  
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King. (CW #441:5-6)***

Finally, O Lord, we ask You to direct our lives to sing praises to Your name that the ends of the earth may hear of Your glorious deeds and praise You for all eternity. We come in confidence because of the message of the cross and the empty tomb.

***(sung all) He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death:  
He lives my mansion to prepare;  
He lives to bring me safely there.  
He lives, all glory to His Name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,  
I know that my Redeemer lives! (CW #441:7-8)***

*Specific prayers may follow*

We also pray as our resurrected and living Lord has taught us...

**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.**



## BLESSING:

Brothers and sisters go in the peace which Easter brings, live in harmony with one another for God calls you all His own, serve the resurrected Lord with gladness.

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.

**Amen**

## CLOSING HYMN:

### *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* | CW #438



1	Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,	Al - le - lu - ia!
2	Hymns of praise then let us sing,	Al - le - lu - ia!
3	But the pains which he en - dured,	Al - le - lu - ia!
4	Sing we to our God a - bove,	Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,	Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King,	Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured;	Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love;	Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross,	Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave,	Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's King,	Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host,	Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss.	Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save.	Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing.	Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.	Al - le - lu - ia!

Text (sts. 1-3): Latin, 14th cent.; (sts. 1-3): tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708  
Text and tune: Public domain

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**Welcome to our visitors!** It is a pleasure to have you with us this morning. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex or a Visitor Card in the pew in front of you. These will alert our pastors to contact you should you wish for more information about our Church, School, or Preschool. Please join us again soon!

**Special Thanks** to all who participated in our service today. Whether you sang, played an instrument, donated flowers or raised your voice in praise and thanks as we celebrated the resurrection together, we thank you for glorifying the name of our Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Easter Fellowship Breakfast!** Breakfast is scheduled to be served following our service this morning. Our members have been working hard to prepare all the good food which you have no doubt begun to smell wafting through the air here at church. The breakfast is open to all and we would love to have you join us.

**Easter Egg Hunt!** An Easter Egg Hunt is set up in the hallways of the school for your enjoyment following our service this morning. Our school families have been working hard to prepare this event for your children and all kinds of candy and prizes await those who participate.

**Regular Worship Times!** Our regular worship schedule will be in effect again next week. Service times are on *Saturday (6:30pm)* and *Sundays (7:45am & 10:15am)*. There is Adult Bible Study, Sunday School between services. Confirmation of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders is scheduled for our 10:15 am service.

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920-922-1080

We are honored that you chose to worship with us and our Lord Jesus Christ this morning. Once again, it's time to marvel at the truths of Easter and the One who died for our sins. He regularly and consistently seeks a real and meaningful relationship with us every day that, through His abundance, the lives we live would not be ours but belong to the Christ who lives through us. He gives us a new identity.

We offer a number of ways to continue the relationship with Jesus in membership here at St. Paul's. Want to learn more about our church or the teachings of God's Word? Our pastors love to chat. Contact the office at 920-922-1080, to learn about all that St. Paul's can do for you.

You can also fill out a visitor card in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as it comes around in worship. Our pastors will give you a call to follow up.

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Our School also provides a way for children to stay connected to Jesus everyday. We offer a Christ-centered education that focuses on the Word of God, especially as it reveals God's plan of salvation, creation, redemption, and sanctification in Jesus Christ. Students are taught and encouraged to apply the Word of God in service to Him, their families, and their communities.

If you are interested in our learning more about our school or our preschool, registration is already open and you can find out more at [stpaulslutherannfdl.com](http://stpaulslutherannfdl.com) or following the QR Codes. Want to schedule a visit to learn more? Contact our office today at 920-922-1080.



St. Paul's  
School



St. Paul's  
Preschool