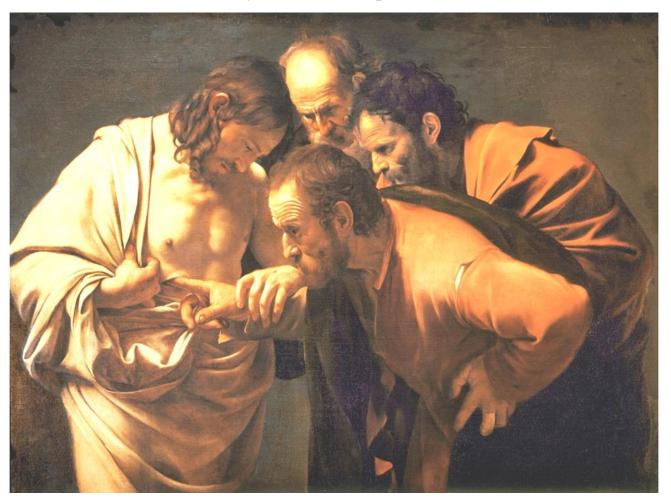
+The Divine Service+

The Second Sunday of Easter | April 7, 2024 | 10:15AM



The Incredulity of Thomas Michaelangelo Caravaggio, 1601

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church!

ST. PAUL is a liturgical, confessional congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. For 150 years, Christ's holy Word has been preached and his blessed Sacraments have been administered here. If this is your first time worshipping with us, welcome. We are delighted to have you join us. Please sign the guest registry in the narthex and introduce yourself to one of the pastors today. They would be happy to speak with you.

Holy Communion.

WE CONFESS the bodily presence of Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. The Sacrament is offered to baptized Christians who repent of their sins, have been catechized in the Christian faith, and who are members of our congregation or another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. If it has been over a year since the last time you communed, or if you are a visitor today, please speak to one of our pastors before receiving Holy Communion. Thank you.

Prayer Before Worship.

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.

Ps. 26:8

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Ps. 84:10

O LORD, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.



Processional Hymn | 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King

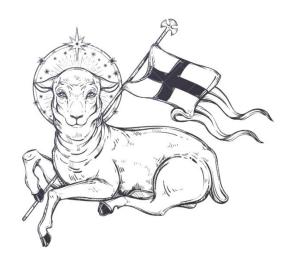
Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



The Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength;

seek his presence continually!

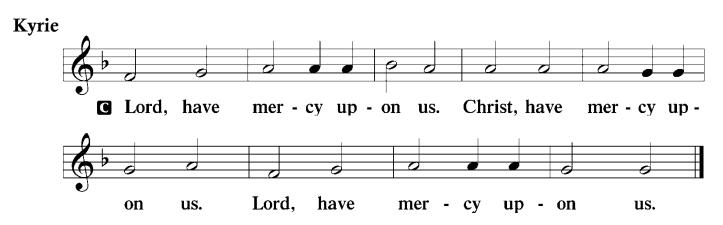
Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

He remembers his covenant forever,

the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

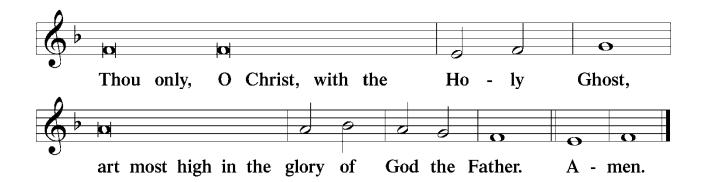


Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.



Gloria in Excelsis LSB 187 O P Glory be to God on high: • and on earth peace, good - will toward we bless Thee, we wor-ship We praise Thee, Thee, men. we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Christ; Je - sus Lamb of God, O Lord God, Son the Father, of O that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer. O O Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Acts 4:32–35

³²The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle 1 John 1:1—2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

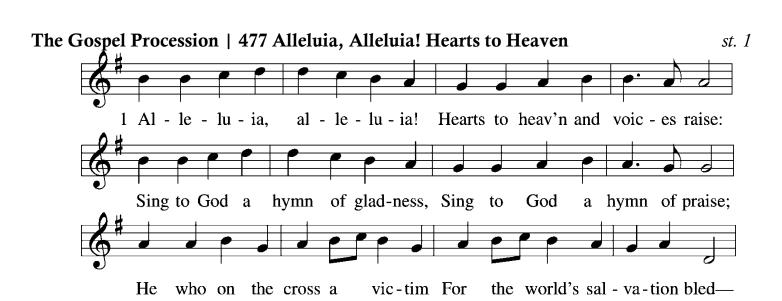
¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Face the cross as it enters the nave.



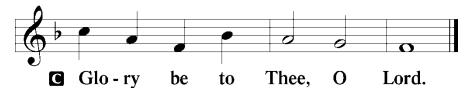




Je-sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.

Holy Gospel *John 20:19–31*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.



¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Nicene Creed

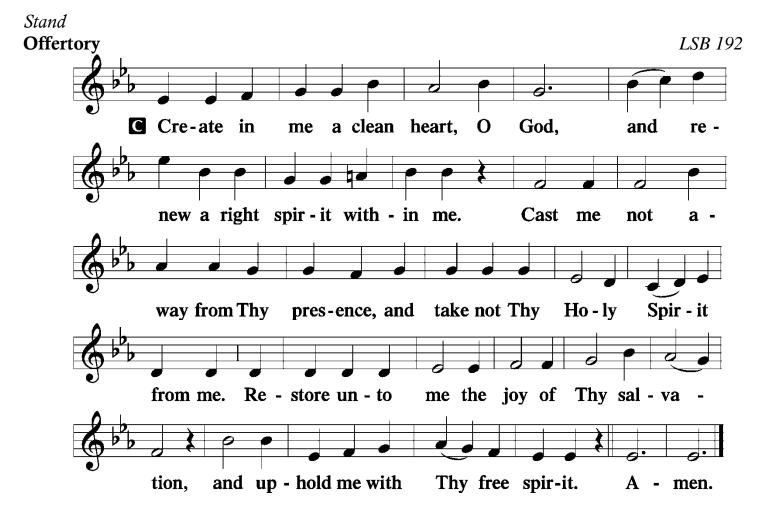
back cover of hymnal

Hymn of the Day | 472 These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

Sermon

At the close of the sermon, stand, as the pastor speaks the following blessing:

- The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus unto life everlasting!
- C Amen.



Sit
The Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

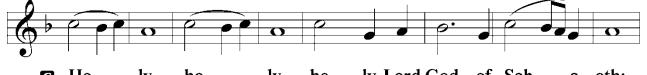
The Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





□ Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer LSB 196

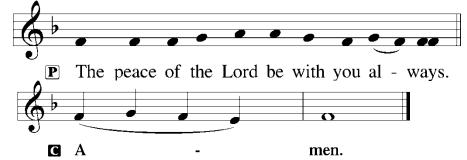
The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197





Sit **Distribution**

Holy Communion at St. Paul

Our congregation confesses the bodily presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar. To care for those who are about to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Altar is open to those baptized Christians who repent of their sins, have been catechized in the Faith, and are members of our congregation, another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, or of another Church body with whom we are in fellowship. If you have not communed in a year or are visiting, please speak with one of our Pastors before communing today. Thank you.

Distribution Hymn | 480 He's Risen, He's Risen

Distribution Hymn | 462 All the Earth with Joy Is Sounding

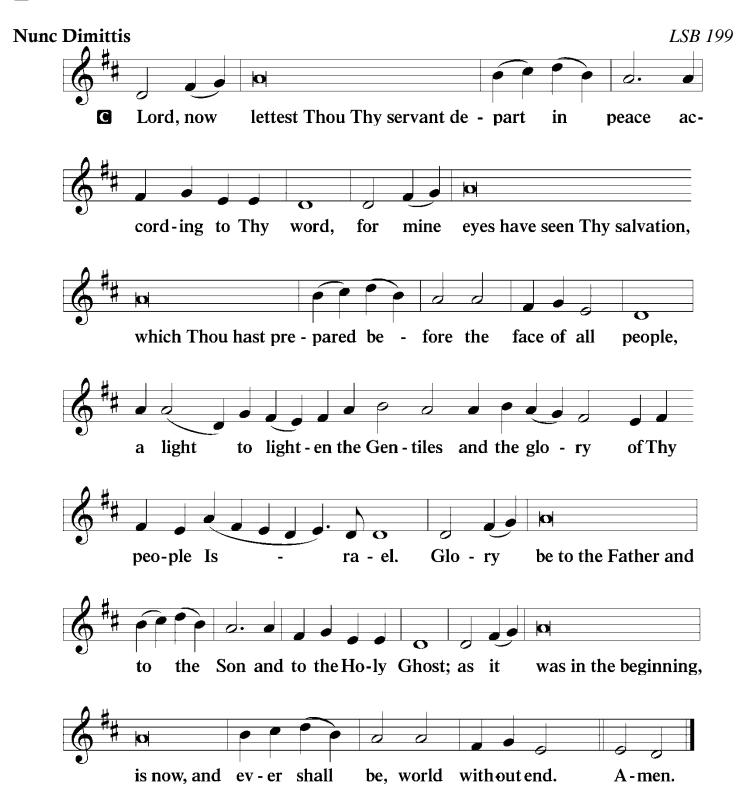
Distribution Hymn | 465 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

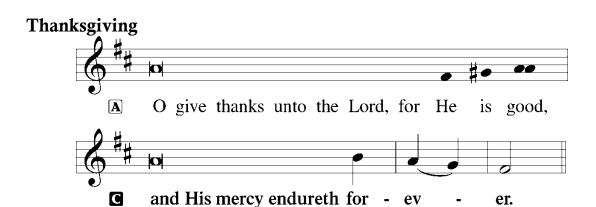
Stand

The Dismissal

P The holy body and precious blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the one true faith unto life +everlasting! Depart in peace.

C Amen.





Post-Communion Collect

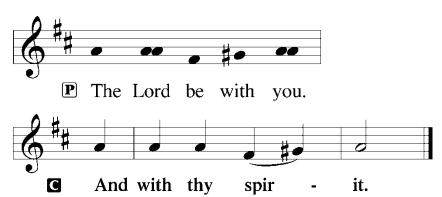
C

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

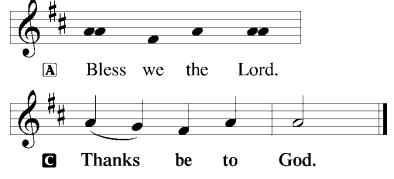
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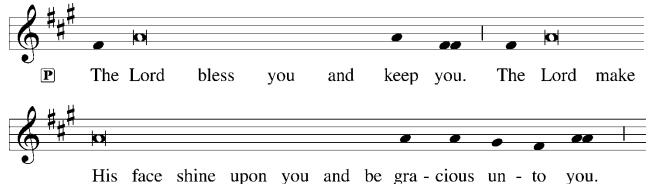
Salutation



Benedicamus LSB 202



Benediction LSB 202





The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and H give you peace.



Hymn to Depart | 813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng



The Sacrament of Holy Absolution

A Meditation on the Word of God | John 20:19-31

He says, "Peace be with you." Three times, he says "Peace be with you." This is no inane greeting. This is not a 'Hi, howya doin'? the way we say. This is a Word that brings with it the very peace of God. This Word is as if Jesus is saying, "Sin made you the enemy of my Father in heaven. But look, through the blood of my cross, I have won peace for you, peace between man and God. And now I am speaking it into your ears, so that you may have it through faith."

Here, we learn that it is not enough the Lord Jesus died for us on Calvary. For that word of Christ's sacrifice must be *applied* to us—that is, must be preached in our ears and believed in our hearts—if it will be of any benefit to us. And in the same way, it is not enough that he is risen from the dead. Because, what must the risen Christ do? He must preach. He must forgive.

And so, When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Notice they were afraid at first. Because again, Jesus risen from the dead is not yet good news. He might come back to them in anger. He might come back to them to blast them for abandoning him, and for their failure to believe. But what makes them glad? His wounds, the proofs of his crucifixion-death for their sins. And his word of peace.

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them, if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld. With these words, Christ gives to his Church the Office of the Keys. What is the Office of the Keys? The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to his Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant, so long as they do not repent.

So Jesus is telling them, "Look. I brought with me forgiveness out of the grave. I am speaking it into your ears, so that you may believe it, and take hold of it in faith. And now, I want you to go out into the world and preach it to others." With these words, Jesus is giving the Church her main business. And the main business of the Church is to distribute the gifts of the cross, is to administer the forgiveness Jesus won on Calvary through preaching and the Sacraments.

With these words, we learn 1, what pastors are for, and 2, what is happening when we come to Church. First, when the pastor is preaching a sermon, he is not to be giving an inspirational Ted Talk, or telling his life's story. Because there is nothing within the pastor himself that can save the lives of his hearers. The only thing a Pastor can give his people that can save their souls from death and hell is the Word of Jesus. And so the best thing a pastor can do, really, is get out of the way, and let Jesus speak. It's his words, his forgiveness, his blessing that matters.

Second, with the words of Jesus in today's Gospel, we learn why we come to Church. Because Christ is there to forgive us. Because Pastor is there to speak Christ's Word to us. And because Jesus sent him for this holy task, I can be sure the word he speaks is not his word, but Christ's word. When Pastor absolves me, and says, 'I forgive you all your sins,' that forgiveness is not the forgiveness of the pastor. It is the forgiveness of Jesus. That is why we come to Church.

Announcements

St. Paul

Elders/Council Meetings will be held <u>April 8th at 6 and 7PM</u> and the Voters Assembly will meet on <u>April 9th at 7PM</u>. All voting members please attend the Voters Assembly.

Gently Used/Bake Sale. Our Ladies Aid Society will again be putting on a Gently Used and Bake Sale. It will be held Friday, April 19 from 8-4PM and Saturday, April 20 from 8-11AM. The congregation is invited to bring clean, gently used items to the Church fellowship hall after late service on April 14th (no TV's please!) until no later than Thursday, April 18th at noon. We will also be having a bake sale and invite anyone to contribute baked products to a good cause! The money generated from these salesare used to help with ongoing costs of upkeep, maintenance, beautification and spreading cheer here at St. Paul. We greatly appreciate all donations of time, talent, and treasure! Ladies Aid members please note we may begin sorting through the week of the 14th and will start marking items on Thursday the 18th at 5pm with the meeting to follow at 7PM. Please mark your calendars. Thank you!

Serve the needy! Nazareth Lutheran Church is a small, growing congregation of Spanish-speaking immigrants in the heart of Baltimore, Md. They are a self-funded congregation but rely on mission dollars from generous donors across the synod for survival. St. Paul has made Nazareth an official mission of our congregation for the year. Remember them in your charitable giving. Proceeds support the spread of the Gospel. Donation box is in the narthex.

Youth

<u>Sunday, April 14; 2-6 p.m. – Bowling & More at Georgetown.</u> We will meet in the Bingen parking lot at <u>2 p.m. on Sunday, April 14</u> to carpool to Georgetown Entertainment. There we shall bowl. We shall also enjoy the 4D Dark Ride Theater (whatever that is) and the Augmented Rock Wall and the Spin-Zone Bumper Cars. Oh, and there will be food. All of it will be included for \$10 per youth. We plan to be back at Bingen by 6 p.m. Parents, as always, we need drivers, who get to play and eat for free. Please let Pastor Brock know if you're willing.

<u>Wyneken</u>

Food donations sought. The Wyneken PTL Food & Beverage Committee is seeking donations for snacks for the teacher lounge! Here are just a few ideas.

- Individual snacks- individual trail mix/ nuts- individual candy k cups- granola bars- water
- soda. Let's show our appreciation to the Wyneken teachers & staff and help them finish the year strong!! Please place in the narthex in the box labeled "Wyneken PTL."

The Wyneken Wrestling Team is sponsoring a **Cornhole Tournament** at Zion Friedheim Lutheran Family Life Center **Saturday April 20** @ **11:30am**. Planning for a great day of food and fun supporting our wrestling team with prizes for the top 2 places, First Place \$100 and Second Place \$50. Single Elimination Team winning first 2 out of 3 games moves on to the next round. Opportunity to "Buy Back In" will be available. Registration Fee is \$40 per team and

can be submitted the day of the tournament. Anyone interested Please RSVP by April 10 to Shane McBride 260-223-1149 or Corbin Bultemeier 260-223-7352. Come join the fun and help support our kids. All ages welcome. All proceeds will be utilized for wrestling equipment and towards the purchase of new wrestling mats. Concessions will be available.

Wyneken Annual **Spring Association Meeting**. The annual spring association meeting will be held at **7pm on Tuesday**, **April 30th** in the St. John Bingen Parish Hall. Members encouraged to pick up a copy of the agenda and proposed Wyneken budget following the service today.

A new SCRIP Coordinator is needed. Please prayerfully consider serving in this volunteer capacity. If interested, contact Mr. Gavrun at principal@wyneken.org or 260-639-6177.

Openings for Infants. The Wyneken Childcare Program would like to thank members of St. Paul, St. John, and Zion Friedheim for their continued prayers and support. We now have openings in our infant room as well as limited availability in the one year old classroom as well as in the two year old/three year old classroom. If you are in need of care, please contact us to see if we can help! Contact Jen Conrad or Janine Albert at 260-639-6064. Thank you

Teacher sought. The Wyneken Memorial Lutheran school board of education seeks a middle school language arts teacher to begin in the 2024-2025 school year. Individuals who are experienced, have LCMS synodical and theological training, as well as an Indiana teaching license are preferred. Those interested in this teaching position are asked to submit a resume and cover letter to Principal Andrew Gavrun. For additional information, please contact Mr. Gavrun at 260-639-6177 or principal@wyneken.org.

<u>LWML</u>

The LWML Decatur Spring Gathering will be Saturday, <u>April 27 at St John Flatrock</u>, 12912 Franke Road, Monroeville. <u>Registration: 8:45 Speaker: 9:00 AM</u> – Pastor Donald Sauls and Sandy Sauls from Compassionate Ministries Network Inc. (a not-for-profit charity dedicated to poverty relief and aid in Southern Adams County). In-gathering: Food Items for Compassionate Ministries food pantry. Registration is now open for the LWML Indiana District Convention in Danville, IN June 21-23, 2024. Registration forms can be found at <u>lwmlindiana.org</u> or in The Good News. Questions, contact Marilyn Bulmahn at 260-919-5007.

Seminary—CTS—Ft. Wayne

Easter Evening Prayer at Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne. The Schola Cantorum and Kantorei of Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne (CTSFW) will present Bach Cantata 67 for the Easter season, "Hold in Remembrance Jesus Christ," in a service of Evening Prayer on Sunday, **April 14, 4PM** in Kramer Chapel on the Seminary campus. The choirs, directed by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra and joined by soloists Dr. Charles Brown (Concordia University Chicago), Ashlee Bickley, Emily Bird, and Jonathan Busarow. Music by Heinrich Schutz and Carl Schalk will also be included, as well as congregational hymns and canticles. For more info www.ctsfw/edu/events.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 7 **8AM The Second Sunday of Easter—Matins**

9:15AM Bible Class/Sunday School

10:15AM Second Sunday of Easter—Divine Service

11:30AM Confirmation

Monday, April 8 6PM Elders Meeting

7PM Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 9 7PM Voters Assembly

Wednesday, April 10 7PM Choir

7PM Vespers

Sunday, April 14 8AM The Third Sunday of Easter—Divine Service

9:15AM Bible Class/Sunday School

10:15AM Third Sunday of Easter—Matins

11:30AM Confirmation

2PM—Bowling and More—youth event 4PM—Evening Prayer, CTS Kramer Chapel

Prayer of the Church

- +Wyneken: our teachers, Chelsea Wilson, students, staff, and childcare.
- +**The Homebound**: Marge Merriman; Laurna Bulmahn, Marilyn Werling (all at Woodcrest); Don Haines (home), Ron Selking (Assisted living facility—Chesterton, Indiana).
- +**Birthdays: Jon Skaggs,** Angie Vogel, Sarah Reinhart, Randy Merriman, Alan Zimmerman, Skyler Steiner, Michael Pritchard, Kim Vitatoe, Karley Walker.

Acolytes 4/7

8AM Clayton Minnich

10:15AM Hank Nussbaum

Attendance

Holy Thursday 3/28: 87

Good Friday 3/29: 128

Sunrise 3/31: 112

Easter Day 3/31: 203

Stewardship

Offering: \$7,845.50 Online: \$1,125.02 Total: \$8,970.52

vs. weekly goal: +\$1,482.52 vs. YTD: +\$571.18



Saint Paul Ev. Lutheran Church—Preble, Indiana

A Congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

4510 W. 750 N., Decatur, Indiana 46733 | 260.547.4176

Church Email: stpaulpreble@gmail.com Webpage: stpaulpreble.org

Rev. Andrew T. Yeager, Pastor | 260-226-0375 | andrewtyeager@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Brege, Pastor | 260-547-4256 | <u>djbrege@hotmail.com</u> Sem. Michael Hahn, Field Worker, 2nd Year | 317-366-4804 | <u>michael.hahn@ctsfw.edu</u> Sem. Aaron Wade, Field Worker, 1st Year | 859-327-5707 | aaron.wade@ctsfw.edu