SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 7, 2024



John 20:29

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.

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

People of God, I heard that there were some complaints about the last church dinner we had here.

Yes, there was a lot of room for improvement.

Ok, well, let's hear it. What was wrong?

First off, the salad was too dry.

Ok, sounds like that will need a-dressing. What else?

The French fries, they tasted like they were cooked in France.

Fine, next time we'll cook them in Greece. There can't be more, can there?

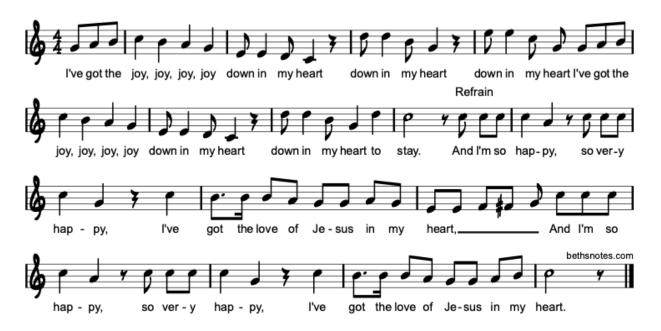
Worst of all, there were bugs crawling all over the buffet table.

Well, there's an easy solution for that! Let us spray...



I've Got the Joy Joy Joy

George William Cooke (1848-1923)



- 2. 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. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

please be seated

First Reading

Acts 4:32 - 35

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave 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 owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

¹How good and how pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

²It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

³It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Second Reading

1 John 1:1 -- 2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—2this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—3we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4We are writing these things so that our iov may be complete. 5This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself 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 that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. ^{2:1}My 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; ² and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit Gospel Acclamation

This Is The Day

Words and Music by Les Garrett



Gospel John 20:19 - 31
The Holy Gospel according to John the 20th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 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." ²⁶A 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." ²⁷Then 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." 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 come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come 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 Stephen Zeller

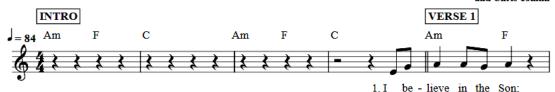
please stand in body or spirit Hymn of the Day

(see next page)

"Because He Lives"

Because He Lives (Amen)

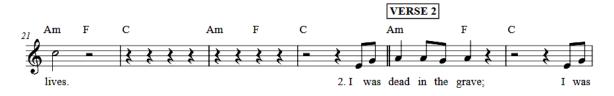
Words and Music by
Ed Cash, Gloria Gaither,
Jason Ingram, Matt Maher,
Daniel Carson, William J. Gaither
and Chris Tomlin









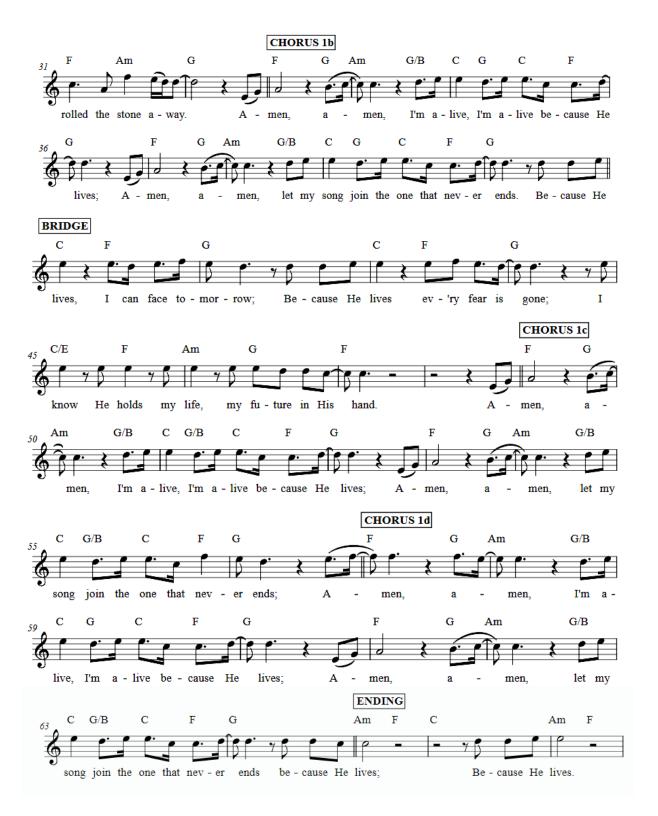




cov - ered in sin and shame;

I heard mer - cy call my name;

He



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.

Ha - La - La - La

Words and Music by David Graham





please be seated Offering





Offering Prayer

Let us pray......Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **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.

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 "I Come with Joy"

"T

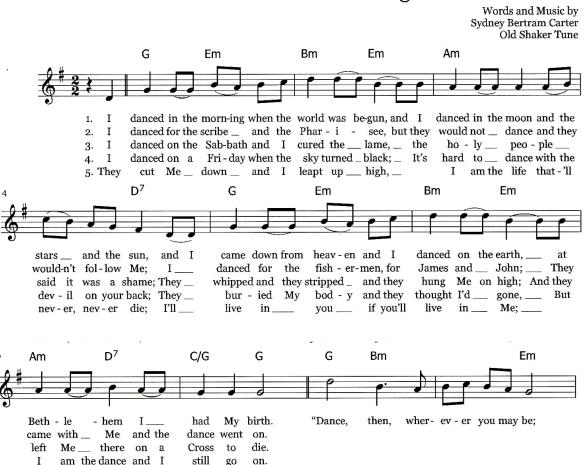
am the Lord

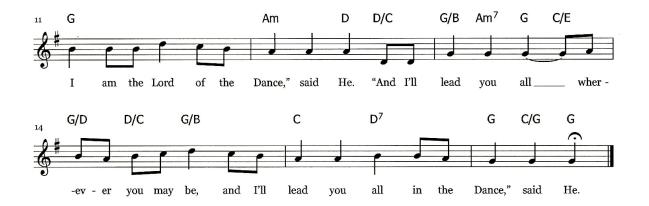
of the

Dance," said He.

#482

I Danced In The Morning





CCLI Song # 78529

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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......Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

Blessing

May the God of Isaac, 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

(see next page)

"Hark! The Herald Angel Said"

"Hark! The Herald Angel Said"

- 1. Hark! the Herald Angel said why seek Jesus with the dead? He's not here, as you can see, Grave cloths lie where he would be. On your way don't tell the others, Jesus will be with his brothers. Sisters, too, he wants to see on the hills of Galilee. Hark! the Herald Angel said He is risen from the dead!
- 2. Two disciples walking down to Emmaus with a frown:
 Jesus walked and talked with them, eyes were kept from knowing him.
 To the stranger they both said:
 Stay with us, for night's ahead.
 Jesus blessed and broke the bread, and their hearts within them sped:
 Now our eyes have seen the Lord!
 Now our hope has been restored!
- 3. When the doors were locked in fear, Christ the Lord again came near. Peace be with you! twice he said, Now I send you in my stead. Take the Spirit and forgive, Show the world that I do live. Let my love cast out all fear, Trust that I am always near! Witness to the Risen One, Share my peace with everyone!

-Words: Paul Lintern (v. 1) & Jonathan Hauze (vv. 2-3)



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 ALIVE, ALLELUIA"



Welcome: This second Sunday of Easter, we are all twin selves, like Thomas, who was called the Twin. Each of us is both doubter and believer, and Jesus blesses us with peace. Welcome.

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

In Our Prayers: "Unspoken prayer concerns", Eugene Oelrichs, Scott Cash, Judie VonHolten, Greg Ives, Dewey Jobe, Jon Beckman, Judy Smith, Paul Kelly, Gene Beckman, Renee Weller, Gordon Ives, PRAYER and Kyle Luetjen.



Liz Smart, Denny & Pam Karl (friends of Melisa Balke), Josephine Heimsoth, Peggy Bay, Sharon Shull, Don Gibbs, Melvin Oelrichs (grandpa of Nicholas Dieckman), Art Heimsoth, Dorothy Brown (mother of Bob Brown), Cliff Eckhoff, Averi Kroenke, Carmilla Swaim and husband (friends of Debbie Eckhoff), Donna Allen (mother of Adrienn Dieckman), Ken Jenson (friend of Connie Gerken), Jamie Simon, Dena Sikoutris, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Annie Bright, Kiley Simon (friend of Jenna Nash), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin Lackas (brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Bill Hampton, and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home: Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose.* Marie Viebrock & Florence VonHolten: *GSCC.* Kathy Hallauer: *Loving Arms.* Sally Viebrock: E. W. Thompson Center

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: ENS David M. Gardner (son of Pam Balke), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, SSG Nick Smith and Cpt. Joseph Strathman.

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



With this Ring...

Congratulations: Best Wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Wienberg! Carter Wienberg and Jordyn Harms were united in marriage on Saturday, April 6th. We wish them all of God's blessings.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Our soup suppers were well received allowing for good fellowship and a good bowl of soup. Thank you to all who helped to make our "Simple" Suppers come together each Wednesday night during Lent: those who prepared the soups and the sandwich spreads and to those who helped to set-up and clean-up. Thank you! Thank you, also to those who donated cookies for fellowship and to the organizations who helped to serve the cookies, hot chocolate, and coffee following our Lenten worship service.



One Stitch at a Time: The Sewing Group is back at it again. They will meet on Monday, **April 8th** at 9:00am in the church basement. Everyone is welcome to join the sewing group

LBPS: Little Blessing Preschool will be in session on Tuesday, **April 9th** and Wednesday, **April 10th** from 8:00am until 11:15pm in the church basement.





Meeting: The Council will meet on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00pm.

Engaged Neighbor: On Wednesday evening, April 10th, you are invited to take part in an Engaged Neighbor workshop here at St. Paul's. Hosted by an Engagement Specialist from MU Extension, Who is my this one-hour workshop will remind us of the importance of Neighbor knowing our local neighbors and offer non-threatening tips on how to engage with them. Whether you know your immediate neighbors or not, this conversation is an important one to have. A light dinner of sandwiches will be served at 5:30 pm in the Gathering Space for any attendees, followed by the program at 6:00 pm in the Chapel. An RSVP to the church office would be appreciated, but not required, in order to plan for dinner and materials.



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, April 11th from 8:00am until 10:00am to help you with your health care needs.

Education Scholarship: Annually, the Central States Women of < the ELCA awards scholarships to female members of an ELCA congregation who are seeking post high school education. It is a Scholars renewable scholarship. Applications for the non scholarship may be found at the ushers' stands. For any questions, see The date for submitting your application has been extended to Monday, April 15, 2024.



Circle: Esther Circle will meet on Monday, April 15th at 7:00pm at the home of Sharel Wienberg.

The Worship & Music Committee will meet on Wednesday, **April 17th** at 3:30pm.



Ask The Pastor: It's back! A few years ago, a group of members and friends would gather one evening a month at a local restaurant for "Ask the Pastor," an opportunity to have casual conversation PASTOR about just about anything. Instead of a predetermined Bible Study, you brought the topic and the questions, which often ranged from dinosaurs to God's will and everything in between. Since there are now a couple of new places in town that serve dinner and have space in the evening we decided to bring back this kind of gathering. We'll start on

Thursday, April 25th, at 6:00 pm, meeting at Missouri Made Shop & Comfort Café (105 E Main St.) Food and drinks will be available for purchase. If you can, let Pastor Stephen know if you think you might be there in order to plan for space and seating.

Graduates: We have students graduating from pre-school all the way through college. We are very proud of you and would like to share your achievements. If you are going to graduate Gradue soon, *please* call or email the church office.





WELCA: Mid-MO Women of the ELCA Gathering will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran in Jefferson City, on Saturday, April 27th with registration beginning at 9:00 am. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. If wishing to share rides or for more information, please contact Janice Gerken.

The speaker for the afternoon is from the HALO program (found in both Jefferson City and Kansas City). The purpose of the program is to provide assistance to children who are homeless due to being abandoned, orphaned, and abused. HALO partners with shelter and other programs to help stretch their services.

An **in-kind offering** is being collected to assist their program. Items paper towels, paper plates, Kleenex, napkins, toilet paper, and toddler-sized diapers. Donations from St. Paul's members would be appreciated. You may leave your donations in the Gathering Space; the items will be transported to Jefferson City on April 27. Thank You!!

~ * ~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~ * ~

Fried Chicken Dinner: The Cole Camp High School Class of 2027 is hosting a fried chicken dinner! Please join us on April 21st from 11:00am until 1:00pm in the school cafeteria to enjoy fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, and desserts and salads provided by the class. Tickets for adults and children over preschool age are \$10.00/each. Preschool or younger are FREE. You can purchase tickets from anyone in the Class of 2027 or at the door! We look forward to seeing you and serving you on April 21st! Thank you for your support.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 7: 8:45am Confirmation Class

9:00am SS / Adult Class 10:00am Worship Service

Holy Communion at the Altar

Holy Humor

Monday, April 8:9:00amSewingTuesday, April 9:8:00amLBPS

7:00pm Council

Wednesday, April 10: 8:00am LBPS

5:30pm Engaged Neighbor Dinner 6:00pm Engaged Neighbor Workshop

Thursday, April 11: 6:00pm Engaged Neighbor Workshop

8:00am BCHD

Saturday, April 12: 5:30pm Casual Worship Sunday, April 14: 8:45am Confirmation Class

9:00am SS / Adult Class

10:00am Worship Service

Holy Communion by Stations



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

April 10-------Engaged Neighbor
April 25------Ask the Pastor
May 19-------LBPS Moving Up Ceremony

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers ·····	·····The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister	Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist	Lois Viebrock
Pianist ·····	Jeannette VonHolten
AV Technicians	Russ Oelrichs & Todd Rusk
Altar Guild	·····Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers ·····	Justin Tinney, Head Usher
Victoria Fox, John Oelrich	s, Braden Poe & Ryan Schlesselman



Second Sunday of Easter ~ April 7, 2024

Assisting Minister	·····Tom Oelrichs
Communion Assistants ·····	At the Altar
Reader	Jim Gumbel
Children's Sermon	·····Pastor Stephen Zeller
Acolytes	··Logan Jackson & Mason Randall
Flowers	Easter Lilies



Third Sunday of Easter ~ April 14, 2024

Assisting Minister	······ Anne Goosen
Communion Assistants ······	······ Virgil & Diann Holsten
Reader	·····Children
Children's Sermon	·····Pastor Kim Knowle-Zeller
Acolytes	··· Tristan Fox & Kelsey Viebrock
Flowers	·····Suzanne Lutjen