

EASTER 4

April 21, 2024

WELCOME! We are blessed to worship with you today. If you are visiting, we are delighted that you're here. If you have any questions, please ask anyone near you. To find out everything going on at St Paul's, visit www.stpaulsokc.com.

Serving Today:

Altar Guild: Janet Miller
Lay Reader: Paula Schopflin
Children's Message: Jill Nobles-Botkin
Communion Assistants: Janet Miller, Joyce Martin & Jill Nobles-Botkin
Sound & Video: Steve Powell
Ushers: Terry Mock, Patti Spain, Mike Thompson, Keith Kilpatrick & Luke Green
Acolyte & Crucifer: Luke & Madelynn Labus

MASTER ACOLYTE: Today we will recognize new Master Acolyte, Luke Labus. Luke has not only put in a lot of time as acolyte and crucifer but has helped with other parts of the service and outreach programs. Whenever you see an acolyte or crucifer that is wearing a cross, they are a Master Acolyte. Please be sure to congratulate them and thank them for their service to St. Paul's. Thank you to Kent Wallace for making their crosses.

PRELUDE: Ron Wallace

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *(Pause for silent reflection)*
Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you in the newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved and in the name of Christ your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: #389 ***Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing*** vs 1-4

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.

In ev'ry insult, rift and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

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

KYRIE vs 3 & 4

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray. O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

FIRST READING:

Acts 4:5-12

⁵The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone."

¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd, ***I lack nothing.***

²He makes me lie down in green pastures, ***he leads me beside quiet waters,***

³he refreshes my soul. ***He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.***

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, ***I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.***

⁵You prepare a table before me ***in the presence of my enemies.***

You anoint my head with oil; ***my cup overflows.***

⁶Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, ***and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.***

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? ¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence:

²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

Word of God, Word of Life. ***Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Please Stand.)

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our king!

To all the world glad news we bring:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel according to **John 10:11-18**

Glory to you, O Lord

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So, when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again.

¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

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

SPECIAL MUSIC:

The Good Shepherd & Jesus Lives, Alleluia, Amen!

Cherub Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Jill Nobles-Botkin

SPECIAL MUSIC: ***I Know that My Redeemer Liveth***

Hayley Thompson

MESSAGE: Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

HYMN:

#789 ***Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*** Vs 1-3

Savior like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus you have bought us; we are yours.

We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

MASTER ACCOLYTE RECOGNITION: Luke Labus

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for in you our God reveals the awesome power of love that is stronger even than death. As in your dying you destroyed death, so in your rising may we be raised above the trials and torments of this world's woe. *(Silence for prayer.)* To you, Lord Jesus, the fullness of your life revealed in an empty tomb, be honor and glory, now and forever.

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory, for your simple word of greeting made the hearts of the women leap with joy. Speak your word of love to those whose hearts are broken, that they too may hear your loving, beckoning call. *(Silence for prayer.)* To you, Lord Jesus, whose call summons us to life in all its fullness, be honor and glory, now and forever.

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

HOLY COMMUNION

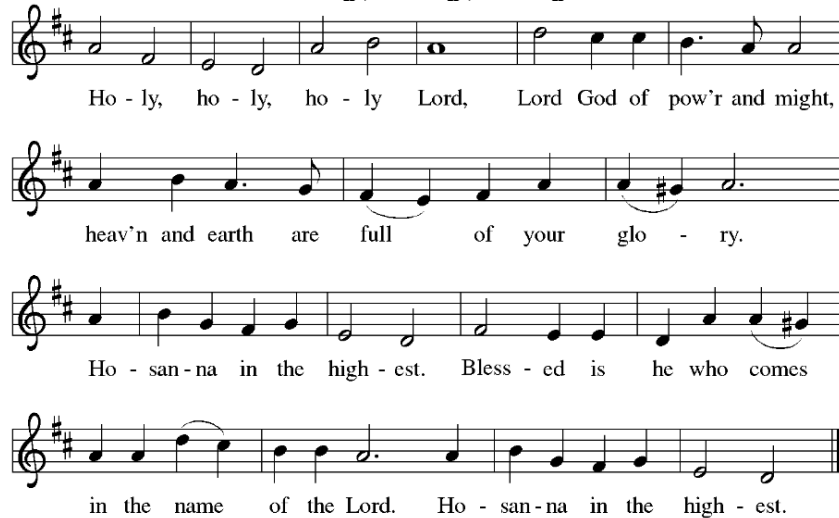
The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always an everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your Name:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

...And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; ***Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

BENEDICTION

May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Ron Wallace

SENDING

Go in peace! Share the good news! **Thanks be to God!**

Please note there is no offertory during service, our offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary or you can give online using the following QR code:



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – TODAY!!

Following worship. We will be voting on Board Members and other business.

TODAY!! CHURCH ABLAZE “FOOD & FELLOWSHIP” CELEBRATION

Come celebrate Church Ablaze’s new building from 11:45-1:45pm. The celebration is in their new building @1524 NE Grand, OKC 73117. All are invited!

VINE LUNCHEON AT THE ROC

Pastor Stefanie will be speaking on 4/25 and SPLC has been asked to provide salads for the lunch. If you are interested in helping, please contact Nola Pirog.

SPRING PLANTING

Join us Saturday, April 27 to plant spring flowers in our garden beds! There is an opportunity to adopt garden beds to tend for the year. Lots of assistance is provided. We really appreciate you helping us make our grounds look beautiful! Questions: call Lyle Scharping or Carolyn Behrens.

APRIL OUTREACH MISSION PROJECT

We will be collecting items for personal care kits to be distributed through Lutheran World Relief. Please bring your items to the shopping cart in the narthex during the month of April. Our Quilters will assemble the kits and send them to LWR with their quilts! Items needed: 1 light-weight bath-size towel, dark color, between 20” x 40” and 52” x 27”; 2-3 bars of soap, equaling 8-9oz); 1 adult toothbrush; 1 sturdy comb; 1 metal nail clippers.

ROC FUNDRAISER @ MAIN EVENT

On Wednesday May 1st from 5:00-8:00pm, ROC is hosting a fundraiser at Main Event OKC. You can bowl, play games, and eat and 20% of the proceeds go to ROC. For more information, visit www.reachingourcity.org/memorial. Everyone is welcome!

PENTECOST PICNIC – MAY 19th after church

Mark your calendar! More details to follow.

APRIL ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| 4/21- Worship – Education
Congregational meeting | 4/27- 9 am Spring Planting |
| 4/22- 9am Canticle Ringers | 4/28- Worship – Education
11:30 Prayer partner Banquet |
| 4/23- 6:30 Twilight Tones | 4/29- 9am Canticle Ringers |
| 4/24- 5:30 Children’s handbells
5:45 Dinner
6:30 Education - Choir Practice | 4/30- 6:30 Twilight Tones |

MAY ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--|--|
| 5/1- 5-8pm- ROC Fundraiser @ Main Event
6:30 Choir Practice | 5/14- 6:30 Twilight Tones
7pm Exec. Board Meeting |
| 5/4- 2pm SPFAA Recital | 5/19- Worship- Pentecost |
| 5/5- Worship- Senior Sunday | 5/20- 9am Canticle Ringers |
| 5/7- 6:30 Twilight Tones | 5/21- 6:30 Twilight Tones |
| 5/8- 5:30 Children’s Handbells
6:00 Choir Potluck | 5/26- Worship |
| 5/12- Worship- Education
Happy Mother’s Day | 5/27- 9am Canticle Ringers |
| 5/13- 9am Canticle Ringers | 5/28- 6:30 Twilight Tones
7pm Exec. Board Meeting |

If you have questions regarding SPLC please contact the staff at the following: **405-721-0590** or
Stefanie Rowinski, Pastor pastorstefanie@stpaulsokc.com
Ashley Hardison, Administrative Assistant articles@stpaulsokc.com
Nancy Krause, Director of Music Ministry music@stpaulsokc.com
Risa Powell, Education, Children and Youth Director youth@stpaulsokc.com