



# EASTER 5

## April 28, 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](http://www.stpaulsokc.com).

### **Serving Today:**

Altar Guild: Susi Laflin  
Lay Reader: Joyce Martin  
Children's Message: Patricia Ayling  
Communion Assistants: Jill Nobles-Botkin, Roger & Debi Musick  
Sound & Video: Steve Powell  
Ushers: Terry Mock, Patti Spain, Mike Thompson, Keith Kilpatrick & Luke Green  
Acolyte & Crucifer: Viktor & Pippa Teske

**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:** #361 ***The Day of Resurrection*** vs 1-3

The day of resurrection!

Earth, tell it out abroad, the passover of gladness, the passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,  
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright  
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,  
and list'ning to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
his own "All hail!" and hearing, may raise the glad refrain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful, let earth its song begin,  
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen, their notes of gladness blend;  
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end!

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

## KYRIE vs 1 & 2

*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:**

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

### **FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

<sup>26</sup>Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” <sup>27</sup>So he started out, and on his way, he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means queen of the Ethiopians). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup>and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup>The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

<sup>30</sup>Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

<sup>31</sup>“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So, he invited Philip to come sit with him.

<sup>32</sup>This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?”

<sup>35</sup>Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup>As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” <sup>37</sup>Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” The eunuch answered, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” <sup>38</sup>And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

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

**PSALM 22:25-31**

<sup>25</sup> From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;

***before those who fear you. I will fulfill my vows.***

<sup>26</sup> The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him—

***may your hearts live forever!***

<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord,

***and all the families of the nations will bow down before him,***

<sup>28</sup> for dominion belongs to the Lord

***and he rules over the nations.***

<sup>29</sup> All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;

***all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—those who cannot keep themselves alive.***

<sup>30</sup> Posterity will serve him;

***future generations will be told about the Lord.***

<sup>31</sup> They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn:

***He has done it!***

**SECOND READING:**

**1 John 4:7-21**

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

<sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

<sup>13</sup>This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup>And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup>This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

<sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ***Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing***

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.

The Holy Gospel according to **John 15:1-8**

***Glory to you, O Lord***

**15** “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit, he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

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

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE:**

**Patricia Ayling**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**

**Shine Down**

Carolyn Behrens w/Ron Wallace

**MESSAGE:**

**Pastor Stefanie Rowinski**

**HYMN:**

#712 ***Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*** Vs. 1, 3 & 4  
Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,  
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

**BAPTISM**

**Presentation and Examination of the Candidate:**

**Parents and Godparents:** I present Jolie Ann Fauser to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Question to the Congregation: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support her in her life in Christ?

**People: We will.**

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

**The Baptismal Covenant**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent, and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

**Prayers for the Candidate**

Let us now pray for the one who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open her heart to your grace and truth. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send her into the world in witness to your love. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory, who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

**Thanksgiving over the Water**

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

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

...To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Baptism

Jolie Ann, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servant the forgiveness of sin and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

## The Sign of the Cross with Chrism

Jolie Ann, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**Celebrant and People: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

**Congregational Welcome:**

### **God Claims You**

*(See music insert placed in your pew back.)*

**Refrain:** Jolie, Jolie, God claims you, God helps you, protects you and loves you too.

**Verse 1:** We this day do all agree. A child of God you'll always be. **Refrain**

**Verse 2:** We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way. **Refrain**

## 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. Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth. 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

*(Please note, there are gluten free wafers available if you need them. The center of the trays are juice, and the outer rings are wine.)*

## 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

### APRIL OUTREACH MISSION PROJECT

We will be collecting items for personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring items to the shopping cart in the narthex. Our Quilters will assemble and send the kits with their quilts! Items needed: 1 light-weight bath 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.reachingourcity.org/memorial). Everyone is welcome!

### WOW REGISTRATION

WOW registration is open! Registration deadline is 5/12. Forms are available at the information table in the narthex and online at [www.stpaulsokc.com](http://www.stpaulsokc.com) and our Facebook page. If you are interested in volunteering, be one the lookout for sign-up sheets at the information table!

### PENTECOST PICNIC – MAY 19<sup>th</sup> after church

Mark your calendar! More details to follow.

### APRIL ACTIVITIES

**4/28- Worship** – Education  
**11:30** Prayer partner Banquet

### MAY ACTIVITIES

<b>5/1-</b>	<b>5-8pm-</b> ROC Fundraiser @ Main Event	
	<b>6:30</b> Choir Practice	
<b>5/4-</b>	<b>2pm</b> SPFAA Recital	<b>5/14-</b> <b>7pm</b> Exec. Board Meeting
<b>5/5-</b>	<b>Worship-</b> Senior Sunday	<b>5/19-</b> <b>Worship-</b> <i>Pentecost</i>
<b>5/8-</b>	<b>5:30</b> Children's Handbells	<b>5/26-</b> <b>Worship</b>
	<b>6:00</b> Choir Potluck	<b>5/28-</b> <b>7pm</b> Exec. Board Meeting
<b>5/12-</b>	<b>Worship-</b> Education <i>Happy Mother's Day!</i>	

If you have questions regarding SPLC please contact the staff at the following: **405-721-0590** or  
Stefanie Rowinski, Pastor [pastorstefanie@stpaulsokc.com](mailto:pastorstefanie@stpaulsokc.com)  
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