



4th Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025

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:

Reader: Joyce Martin
Ushers: Blake Behrens, Bill Bandi, Diane & Gary Dewing and Ron Maxfield
Children's Message: Dawn Finnicum
Altar Guild: Kathy Knox
Communion Assistants: Jill & Bali Botkin, Paula Schopflin, Abby & Maelee Moeller, Nola Pirog & Tom Todd
Video assistant: Garrett Purdum
Acolyte & Crucifer: Mia Greiner & Evelyn Moeller

PRELUDE: *Joyous Spiritual* Twilight Tones

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: #385 ***Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*** Vs 1, 3 & 4

Good Christians friends, rejoice and sing!

Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Kyrie 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,



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

Refrain

Let us pray. O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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 9:36-43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them, and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile, he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

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

PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall 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, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat, ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia!

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL READING John 10:22-30

²²At that time the Festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, in regard to what he has given me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Dawn Finnicum

SPECIAL MUSIC

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

SPLC Adult Choir

MESSAGE

Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

The Lord's my shepherd; I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie in pastures green;
he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me the quiet waters by.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still;
for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me,
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be;
and in God's house forevermore my dwelling place shall be.

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.

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 your resurrection overturns our expectations of life and even your closest friends could not see truth before them. As the angel helped them to grasp your triumph and overcome their fear, so help us to see your hand at work through the events that overtake us. *(Brief silence for personal prayer.)* To you, Lord Jesus, whose ways astonish beyond our imagining, be honor and glory, now and forever. Praise to you, Lord Jesus: ***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 you promised that the same power that was at work when you were raised from the dead would also be alive in us. Show your power to those who are powerless; reveal your love to those who feel unlovely and through your Spirit enable all your people to be witnesses of your amazing grace. *(Brief silence for personal prayer.)* To you, Lord Jesus, daily renewing your people and your creation, 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.***

COMMUNION

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

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up 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 and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. 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

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to all of them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

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

...By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

Let us pray. ***Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

May the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **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 link on our website, www.stpaulsokc.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOW HELP NEEDED

WOW is right around the corner! We need volunteers to help decorate, organize t-shirts, snack & cooler prep, check in volunteers & group leaders. Sign up sheets and more details will be available in the narthex. All adults attending need to complete a background check. A link to the background check will be sent to the specified email address on your registration form, or you can e-mail articles@stpaulsokc.com to request a link.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP PARENT MEETING

ATTENTION MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS- we will have a meeting to discuss the upcoming mission trip after worship May 18th. Contact Risa for more information.

XYZ (Extra years of Zest)

Thursday, May 15, at 1:00 p.m. We'll be playing Bunco and the Hosts are Lynne Elias and Diane Ackerman. (The guys will be off on their annual fishing trip, and those not going fishing are welcome to join us girls.) Signing up will help us know how many tables to set up. So, please sign up today or call one of the hosts by Thursday morning. Don't worry if you don't know how to play. It really is very easy and we'll be happy to show you. We hope you'll be able to join us.

MUG WASHERS NEEDED!

If you are looking for an EASY, infrequent way to serve at St Paul's, please consider being a Mug Washer. This is a terrific opportunity for a single, couple, or family to give back. The more volunteers we have, the fewer times everyone has to wash! Currently, each volunteer unit is scheduled 5-6 times a year. If you think you might be interested, or want more information, please contact Susi Laflin 405-202-7065 mailladysusi@gmail.com

PENTECOST PICNIC

We will meet in small groups for lunch after church on Pentecost for our picnic! Groups can meet together in a host home or a group can go eat at your favorite Sunday brunch spot! If you are interested in being a host for a group, follow the sign up link below and sign up to "Host in a Restaurant" or "Host in Home." For everyone else, follow sign up to join in the fun! As we get closer to Pentecost, we'll share host home information and maps! www.stpaulsokc.com – Sign up!

USHERS NEEDED

We are looking for a few more people to join our usher team! Please contact Luke Green if you are interested in helping out Sunday mornings!

MAY ACTIVITIES

5/11-Worship

Mother's Day

5/14- 6:30 - Choir Practice

5/15- XYZ

5/18- Worship

MS Mission trip parent meeting

5/25- Worship

JUNE ACTIVITIES

6/1- Worship

6/4- WOW

6/7- 10:30 June Ricards Memorial Service

6/8- Worship

Pentecost Picnic

6/11- WOW

6/15- Worship

6/18- WOW

6/22- Worship

6/25- WOW

6/28-29- HS Mission Trip Lake Retreat

6/29- Worship