



5th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

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.stpaulsoke.com.

Congratulations to our 2026 graduate – Emma Lewis!

SERVING TODAY:

Reader: Ann Caine
Prayer Leader: Debi Musick
Ushers: Robert Adair, Russ Bainbridge, Steve Krause, Benji Sitton & Kenrick Veit
Children's Message: Carolyn Behrens
Altar Guild: Nola Pirog
Communion Assistant: Carolyn Behrens
Video assistant: Tracy Caine
Acolyte & Crucifer: TBA

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

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring:
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!


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

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

This Is the Feast

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the




hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

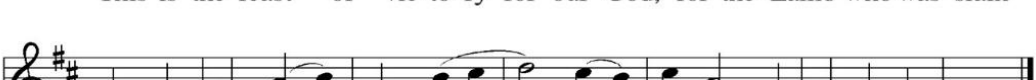


might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;

deliver me in your righteousness.

²Incline your ear to me;

make haste to deliver me.

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;

for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,

for you are my tower of strength.

⁵Into your hands I commend my spirit,

for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵My times are in your hand;

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant;

save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat

The Holy Gospel according to John. ***Glory to you, O Lord***

GOSPEL READING John 14:1-14

14"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
SPECIAL MUSIC

Tom Todd
The Truth Shall Make You Free

SPLC Adult Choir
w/Rick Ayling & Ron Wallace

MESSAGE

Pastor Stefanie Rowinski

HYMN

#810

O Jesus I Have Promised

vs 1, 2 & 4

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me, my master and my friend.

I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

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.

SENIOR RECOGNITION

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 is a revelation to the whole world. As you revealed yourself powerfully to so many, reveal yourself now as the hope for our world. *(Brief silence for personal prayer.)* To you, Lord Jesus, going beyond the limits of our understanding, 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 took the risk of passing your mission to frail disciples. As you commissioned them to go into all the world, so may all the world come to you, the King of nations. *(Brief silence for personal prayer.)* To you, Lord Jesus, with us to the end of the age,, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

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

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; 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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – TODAY – FOLLOWING WORSHIP

We will be voting on upcoming board members and chairs.

SPRING FLING BBQ- SUPPORTING YOUTH MISSION TRIPS

TODAY after the congregational meeting. Join us for Senior Sunday and a Spring BBQ provided by the parents of mission trip attendees. All donations will help fund middle and high school mission trips. Please plan to attend and support the growth and community outreach of our youth. Please bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy the newly finished back patio!

REQUEST FROM THE BLACKWELDER BRASS

The quintet has been given the opportunity to attend the Rafael Méndez Brass Institute in Denver this summer. This weeklong program is an intensive educational experience in career seminars, master classes, chamber ensemble coaching, and competitions, all led by some of the finest brass musicians in the world. Attending is a meaningful step in the musical journey of these talented young men, but they need help covering travel and living expenses for the week. Any support you can provide will help make this opportunity possible. If you would like to contribute, see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex and copy the QR code to donate. They thank you for your support!

HARVEST HILLS SUPPLIES NEEDED

We have a request from Harvest Hills Elementary to help some of their families. They are in need of certain cleaning supplies & toiletries. The counselor will hand out the items as needed. Supplies requested: toilet paper, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, dish soap/detergent, paper towels/plates/napkins, toothbrush & toothpaste, hand/body soap, shampoo & conditioner and sanitary products. Questions: contact Patti Spain

BUILDING SECURITY

When leaving the building, please be sure all doors are closed and locked. We have had a few instances of doors being left propped open or left unlocked. Please help us keep our building safe and running efficiently.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MAY

5/3- 9:30- Worship – Senior Sunday

Congregational meeting (after worship)

Spring Fling BBQ – Mission trip Fundraiser

5/4- 9am Canticle Ringers

5/5- 6:30 Twilight Tones

6pm Executive Board Meeting

5/6- 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal

5/17- 9:30- Worship

5-7pm Youth Night

5/21- XYZ

5/24- 9:30- Worship - Pentecost

5/25- Memorial Day - Office Closed

5/10- 9:30- Worship - Mother's Day

5/11- 9am Canticle Ringers

5/13- 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal

5/31- 9:30- Worship