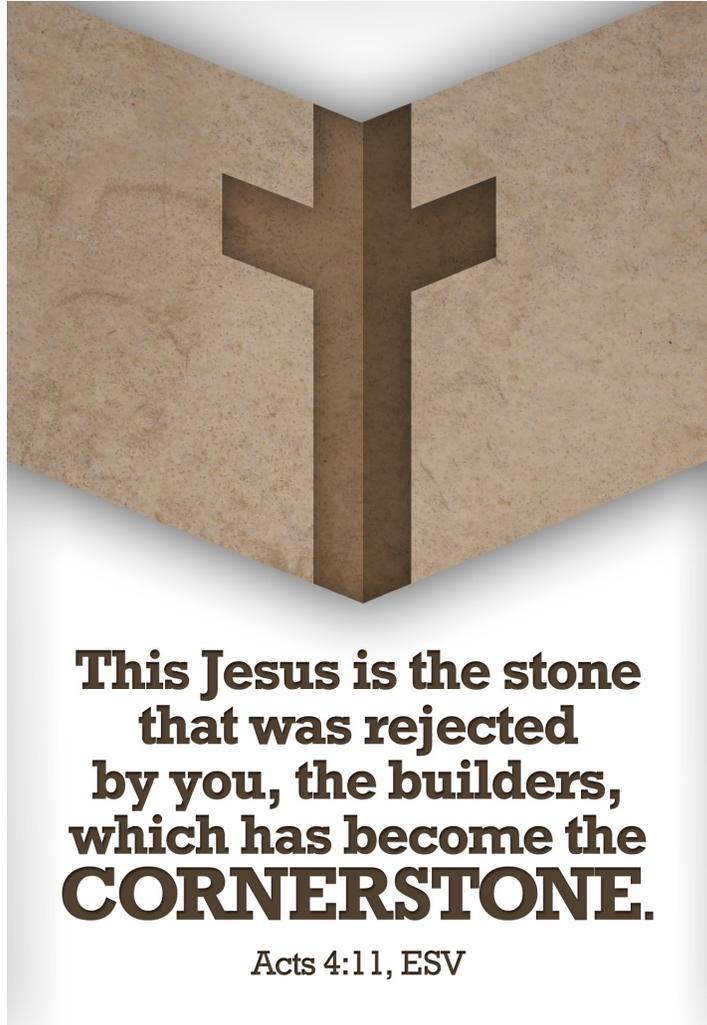




**St. Paul
Lutheran Church**

share • care • grow
La Grange, Texas

The Rev. Candis O'Meara, *Pastor*
Jean McHenry (5 p.m.);
Sherise Davis (9 a.m.), *Organists*
April 24 & 25, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter



**This Jesus is the stone
that was rejected
by you, the builders,
which has become the
CORNERSTONE.**

Acts 4:11, ESV

Next weekend's readings:
Acts 8:26-40; John 15:9-17

LISTEN TO ST. PAUL SERVICES!

Visit our webpage, www.stpaulg.org, and click "**Listen**" to hear our services live on your smart phone or computer! You can also view our bulletin, weekly service video, newsletters and current calendar. Visit our Facebook page to view the service live Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

POB 567 / 110 W. Walnut Street, La Grange, Texas 78945

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Parish Office: 979-968-5657 Fax: 979-968-6950 Fellowship Hall: 979-968-9603

Office Hours: Monday 1 - 5 p.m.; Tuesday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.; 1 - 5 p.m.;

Friday 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

e-mail: stpaul@cvctx.com

Web Page: www.stpaulg.org

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Welcome!

- + Welcome to worship!
- + Offerings may be placed in the lock box as you leave; mailed to P O Box 567, LG; placed in the mail slot in the office door, or as always, you may give online. Thank you for supporting the ministries at St Paul!
- + All are welcome at the table of grace. We believe that Christ is truly present as we share the bread and wine. Those at home are invited to use whatever bread or crackers and wine or juice you have on hand. We believe that Christ is truly present as we share whatever elements we have available.
- + The 9 a.m. service will be on Facebook live & audio streamed on our webpage, www.stpaullg.org. It will also be posted on our Facebook page. You may also listen to last week's service on KBUK 104.9 FM on Sundays at 10 am.

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

(Stand if able)

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers. Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever. **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.**

Prayer of the Day

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.**

(Sit)

Children's Word

WORD

Reading Acts 4:1-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

¹While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them, ²much annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there is the resurrection of the dead. ³So they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who heard the word believed; and they numbered about five thousand. ⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

¹¹This Jesus is

‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.’

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(Stand if able)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel John 10:11-18

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

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own 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 do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

This is the gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

(Sit)

Sermon

Pastor Candis O'Meara

(Stand if able)

Hymn ELW 502 "The King of Love" vs. 1, 3, 6



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth and, where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, thy rod and staff my



I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still; thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

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 Intercession

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Loving Shepherd, you know your own and your own know you. Your voice calls us to your loving embrace. Strengthen your church throughout the world that we bear witness to your expansive love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious Shepherd, you are generous with the gifts of goodness and mercy. Restore your creation to wholeness so that cities and towns, countryside and wilderness, may abound with life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Hope-giving Shepherd, the nations and peoples are your heritage. Place into the hearts of all leaders and rulers the passion to serve. Crucify any desire to overpower others and give leaders joy in lifting up the lowly. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abiding Shepherd, your love flows as we reach out to those around us. Move us with your Spirit, so that we lay down our lives for those in need. Especially we pray for all affected by the COVID virus and for the family of Bennie Hanath, Anita, Annette, Annie, Art, Barbara, Barnell, Pastor Bill, Brooke, Chantel, Clarence, Conway, David, Delores, Diana, Don, Doris, Ed, Edna Mae, Edwin, Elva, Emmaus, Enid, Eric, Evelyn, Gary, Iris, J.C., Jan, Jenelle, Jerry, JoAnne, Joe, John, Joy, Joyce, Juanita, Judy, Kay, Kevin, Larry, Leon, Liz, Mae Dene, Marcia, Megan, Nellie, Nick, Oliver, Peggy, Phyllis, Rodney, Ryan, Sherry, Sheryl, Pastor Sid, Tami, Emmanuel Lutheran in Collique, Peru, and for those we name now in the silence of our hearts. Help us love one another in truth and action. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Saving Shepherd, you restore us to wholeness. As we begin to emerge from this pandemic, help us to show love for our neighbor. Empower St. Paul to proclaim your love boldly in our community and around the world. In the midst of challenges and opportunities, fill us anew with you Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering

Please place your offering in the offering plate in the Narthex as you enter or exit the Sanctuary. Offerings may also be mailed to St. Paul, PO Box 567, La Grange, Texas, 78945; brought to the church office, 427 S Washington St.; You may donate online by going to our home page (www.stpaulg.org) and clicking "Donate Now." You will be directed to MyEofferings where you can register to give online, you choose the frequency of giving - you may make a one time offering or schedule when you prefer. Thank you for supporting St. Paul!

Offering Prayer

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

MEAL

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

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

Communion Instructions

For safety reasons, we will stay in our pews for communion. You should have received a prepackaged communion kit before entering the Sanctuary. If you did not, ask one of the ushers for a kit. Pastor will give verbal instructions to lead us in Holy Communion.

Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song ELW 619 "I Know that My Redeemer Lives!" vs. 1, 4, 8



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need. | 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there. |
| 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king! | 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same; what joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives! |

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God. And we will!**

P E P F E L D W S R L G F T T
 T B F L O C K P K M I U W E J
 Q V C Q K N O W F L F R I A Y
 L N B F O O H P J O E Q U T I
 Z G N L Q R I D Q V U C W N S
 A A I G O O D S T E T S A L S
 O S T M S J C N H S S D M L T
 B F G S R C Y Y Z E V R S I K
 D W E O H C A R E S E K H S A
 A O Q J B E O T M V C P C T K
 P L D V E F P Q T A R E T E T
 E F O O D H E H T E P K H N V
 N B G I S C U T E Q R A Y B S
 K G E C G B A O T R L S C V V
 U M R E Q O A T H D D D K X W

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|----------|-------|----------|------|-------|
| LISTEN | SHEEP | LOVES | WOLF | FLOCK |
| ATTACKS | CARES | PEN | GOOD | RUNS |
| SCATTERS | VOICE | SHEPHERD | LIFE | KNOW |

5 p.m. USHERS & ALTAR GUILD: Janet Coronado

9 a.m. USHERS: George Eilert, Gary Anders;
ALTAR GUILD: Janet Coronado

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in loving memory and in memory of Verlene Citzler, who died one year ago, April 29, and now rests in the Lord.

UPDATE: David Butler @ St. David's in Austin; Edwin Votaw @ Care Inn Rehab; Shirley Ehler @ St. David's Rehab; Ruby Tielsch @ Schulenburg Regency

VBS Day Camp Online Registration Click [HERE](#) to register now!
 June 21-25, 2021 from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

THANKS TO ALL who volunteered to serve as Eucharistic Ministers! All Eucharistic Ministers are asked to meet with Pastor Candy after services on Sunday, May 2 in the Friendship Room, when you will be paired with homebound members.

CONFIRMATION IS MAY 2! Throughout the pandemic, Pastor Candy or Caleb met with the 7th and 8th grade confirmation students in person or via Zoom. We did not hold a confirmation service in 2020, so please join us Sunday, May 2 when the 8th grade class of 2020, Brock Loehr, Ella Pineda, and Brigham Kelley; & the 2021 8th grade class,

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|--|
| SUNDAY: 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School TUESDAY: 10:00 AM Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Council Meeting SATURDAY: 7 AM-7 PM Election in Fellowship Hall 5:00 PM Worship SUNDAY: 9:00 AM Worship w/ 8 th Grade Confirmation 10:00 AM Eucharistic Ministers in Friendship Room 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School 10AM-2PM Bage's in Fellowship Hall |
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