

USHERS & ALTAR GUILD: Gerald & JoLene Hughes

CHRIST IN OUR HOMES for April-June are on the Narthex counter and in the box on the office porch.

AMEN: On the second Sunday of the month, we emphasize AMEN donations! So far this year, St. Paul (with the help of the Boy Scouts) has collected 517 pounds of food!

Please bring your food donations to the cart in the Narthex, or the green baskets on the office porch or under the drive through on Walnut Street.

Monetary donations to the AMEN Food Pantry are always welcome (mark your envelope AMEN).

2021 AMEN WORK SCHEDULE: Mondays 8:30-10:30 a.m. April 5, May 17 AMEN has changed their hours this year. We really need volunteers, so if you can help, please let Mannie know! We thank everyone who volunteered in the past and welcome new volunteers!
St. Paul Coordinator: *Mannie Fritsch Schmid*

2021 SECOND CHANCE WORK SCHEDULE: April 13-19; May 25-28; July 6-12; August 17-23; September 28-October 4; November 9-15

Second Chance hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. & Mondays, 8 a.m.

Tuesday-Thursday are spent receiving, pricing and putting items out to sell; Fridays and Saturdays are the days the store is open to the public; and Monday mornings are for straightening up the store for the next volunteers.

Thank you to all volunteers and we always welcome new volunteers!
St. Paul Coordinators: *Carolyn Buchanek, Patty Ehler, JoLene Hughes, Linda Morrison, Ginger Muesse and Gloria Raschke*

"LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF QUILTS - HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!"

We are tacking (tying) quilts Tuesday, April 6, and April 20. We begin at 8 a.m. and continue till noon in the Fellowship Hall. We provide On-The-Job Training – No experience necessary!! We pin hems in the quilt, some sew hems in with the machines, some tie knots in the quilts, some can iron fabric for cutting into squares, and most importantly we all enjoy good fellowship and conversation. This is the 'Tacky Tuesday' Group!!!

SUNDAY: 9:00 AM Easter Worship 11:00 AM Easter Worship
MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED 8:30 AM AMEN 7:00 pm Friends in Faith Zoom Meeting
TUESDAY: 8:00 AM LWR Quilters 10:00 AM Zoom Bible Study
SATURDAY: 5:00 PM Worship
SUNDAY: 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Adult Sunday School



**St. Paul
Lutheran Church**

share • care • grow
La Grange, Texas

The Rev. Candis O'Meara, *Pastor*
Jean McHenry, *Organist*
April 3, 2021
Resurrection of our Lord
Vigil of Easter



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.

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.
- + Both the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. services will be on Facebook live & audio streamed on our webpage, www.stpaulg.org. It will also be posted on our webpage and on our Facebook page. You may also listen to last week's service on KBUK 104.9 FM on Sundays at 10 am.

This is the night of salvation! At the Vigil of Easter, we gather around fire, word, water, bread, and wine, proclaiming through story and song that ours is a God who continuously brings life out of death. On this night we experience again the heart of God's baptismal promise and the center of our faith: we are claimed and cleansed, renewed in the death and resurrection of Christ. We gather with all the saints of every time and place to celebrate the good news: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

(Stand if able)

Thanksgiving for Baptism

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

2021 Easter Lilies

given to the glory of God

- ~ In loving memory of Eroy and Ora Lee Roscher and Elton and Ruby Jochen by Wayne, Linda, Justin and Katie Anders
- ~ In loving memory of Franklin Brandt by Elaine and family
- ~ In loving memory of Louis and Paula Janssen, Adam and Dolores DeDear, and Richard L. Sumner by Bill and Fran Carroll and Sharlot Sumner
- ~ In loving memory of Ruddle Drab by Dorothy, Larry and Michelle, Gary and Lisa, and families
- ~ In loving memory of Fred Eilert by his family
- ~ In loving memory of Bonnie Freudenberg by Gilbert and family
- ~ In loving memory of Frank and Nora Friemel and Arthur and Nollie Friemel by Anita Craft, Hertha Kruse, Russ and Debbie Friemel, Ardie and Jerry Holsinger, and Mannie Fritsch-Schmid
- ~ In loving memory of Sanford Schmid by Mannie Fritsch-Schmid
- ~ In loving memory of Glenton and Bernice Gaertner, Reginald and Alice Hackemack and Ralph Hackemack and in honor of John, Julie, Cody, Michael, Lane, Maddie, and Levi by Marjorie Hackemack
- ~ In loving memory of Albert & Pearlle Tumis by David, Peggy, Beth, Matt, Brooks & Grayson
- ~ In loving memory of E.W. and Beatrice Meiners and Arnold and Edna Keilers by their children
- ~ In honor of Dawn, Sal, Sophia, and Julian Mirran by their parents and grandparents
- ~ In loving memory of Charles Koether, Glenn "Toby" and Dorothy Koether by their family
- ~ In loving memory of Marian Busch, Milton and Margaret Cox, Callie Cox Morgan, John Ed Morgan, and Paul Blanchard by Clay, Susie, Caitlin, Abby and Cole Morgan
- ~ In loving memory of Joe Muesse and Walter and Martha Ehler by Ginger Muesse
- ~ In loving memory of Harry Namken by Kathie & Gary Nitsche
- ~ In loving memory of Glen A. Prause and Tommy Prause by Velrie Prause and family
- ~ In honor of Jackson, Carson and Madison Rau by Charles and Faye Rau
- ~ In loving memory of Shank Warnken by Lucille and family
- ~ In loving memory of Elton and Cecilia Oppermann and Paul and Albina Weber by Henry and Gladys Weber
- ~ In loving memory of Paul and Scott Wolff by Iva and family

Sending Song ELW 377 "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!" vs. 1 & 2



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter;
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent;
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry;
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - him sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise!
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light,
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Dismissal

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

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

Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

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 God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Sit)

WORD

Reading Romans 6:3-11

We were incorporated into the death of Jesus Christ in baptism and so were liberated from the dominion of sin. We also anticipate that we will be incorporated into the resurrection of Christ and so will be liberated from the hold death has over our mortal bodies.

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

(Stand if able)

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Let us sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously, our strength and our might, who has become our salvation. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel John 20:1-18

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

The morning begins with confusion: the stone has been moved and the tomb is empty. Disciples arrive, then angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my

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.**

Offering *(Please drop your offering in the black lock box on a table in the Narthex as you exit. 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

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.

brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' " ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

(Sit)

Sermon

Pastor Candis O'Meara

(Stand if able)

Hymn ELW 575 "In Christ Called to Baptize" vs. 1,4



1 In Christ called to bap - tize, we wit - ness to grace
 2 In Christ called to ban - quet, one ta - ble we share,
 3 In Christ called to wit - ness, by grace we will preach
 4 U - nite us, a - noint us, O Spir - it of love,



and gath - er a peo - ple from each land and race.
 a ha - ven of wel - come, a cir - cle of care.
 the life - giv - ing gos - pel; God's love we will teach.
 for you are with - in us, a - round us, a - bove.



In deep, flow - ing wa - ters, we share in Christ's death,
 Al - though we are man - y, we share in one bread.
 By grace may our liv - ing give proof to our praise
 E - quip us for ser - vice with gifts you be - stow.



then, ris - ing to new life, give thanks with each breath.
 One cup of thanks - giv - ing pro - claims Christ, our head.
 in cost - ly com - pas - sion re - flect - ing Christ's ways.
 In Christ is our call - ing. In Christ may we grow.

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

Washed and renewed in the mercy of God that endures forever, we pray this night for the church, the world, and all creation.

You bring us from death to life with Christ. Fill and enlighten the newly baptized; enliven all the baptized so that your church may be a sign of resurrection in the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

At creation you brought forth order and life. Bring life anew to all creation: sky, earth, and seas; sun, moon, and stars; plants and animals. Teach us to treasure and defend what you have declared to be good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

As you delivered your people, deliver all from bondage. Bring an end to war and brutality. Raise up leaders who listen for wisdom's voice. Cause righteousness to spring up among the nations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your power extends to the depths of the grave. Bring hope and peace to all who are in the depths of sorrow or the fires of suffering. Heal all who are sick and comfort the grieving. Especially we pray for all affected by the COVID virus and for the family of DPS officer Chad Walker, Anita, Annette, Annie, Barbara, Barnell, Pastor Bill, Bradley, Brooke, Carolyn, Chantel, Clarence, Conway, David, Diana, Dolores, Don, Doris, Ed, Edna Mae, Elva, Emmaus, Enid, Eric, Evelyn, Gary, Glenda, Gloria, Grace, Iris, J.C., Jan, Jean, Jenelle, Jerry, Jim, JoAnne, Joe, John, Joy, Joyce, Juanita, Judy, Kay, Kevin, Larry, Leon, Lisa, Liz, Mae Dene, Marcia, Margie, 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. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the first light of dawn Jesus' resurrection was revealed. Guard all who keep vigil in the night: tending to the sick or ensuring public safety, working, or worrying. As they await the morning, may hope dawn upon them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You drew the amazed, the terrified, and the weeping to the empty tomb. Gather us with your people of all times and places to wonder at your power and rejoice in your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

To you, Living God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one with whom we have been raised to new life, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

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