

The 6th Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022



A Russian icon of Christ healing the paralytic at the pool of Bethesda (Circa 1700)

The Church is a hospital, and not a courtroom, for souls. She does not condemn on behalf of sins, but grants remission of sins. Nothing is so joyous in our life as the thanksgiving that we experience in the Church. In the Church, the joyful

sustain their joy. In the Church, those worried acquire merriment, and those saddened, joy. In the Church, the troubled find relief, and the heavy-laden, rest. "Come," says the Lord, "near me, all of you who labor and are heavy-laden (with trials and sins), and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) What could be more desirable than to meet this voice? What is sweeter than this invitation? The Lord is calling you to the Church for a rich banquet. He transfers you from struggles to rest, and from tortures to relief. He relieves you from the burden of your sins. He heals worries with thanksgiving, and sadness with joy. No one is truly free or joyful besides he who lives for Christ. Such a person overcomes all evil and does not fear anything!

-St. John Chrysostom

May Thy cross accompany me during that dreaded crossing, may it drive the powers of darkness away from me; may it be for me the key that opens the gates of paradise, that I may enter into bliss, rejoice and glorify Thy compassion, O most merciful One!

- St. Ephraim the Syrian

The Cross alone is our theology.

- Martin Luther

Welcome to St. Paul!

We are glad that you are with us today! If you are new to our church, you may not be familiar with Lutheran liturgy. No worries. This bulletin is designed to help guide you through the worship service. We encourage you to participate in

as much or as little of the service as you feel comfortable. Thank you for being a part of our worship. We hope that the Lord blesses you through our time together!

Restrooms, Changing Stations, and Nursing Room

Restrooms are located in the lobby (narthex) of the sanctuary. Both the men's and women's rooms have diaper changing tables for the little ones. We also have a nursing room for mothers and babies that is located across the breezeway, straight out of the doors on the east side of the lobby.

Children in the Liturgy

We pray that all children would know that God made them, He loves them, and He goes with them everywhere. We are glad to have little ones with us in the service. We know that they sometimes can squirm, squawk, and squeal. Please don't feel embarrassed by it! All kids are always welcome here at St. Paul. We encourage you to help them follow along and engage with them in the action of the liturgy - observe the movement of the procession, hear the music, sing the songs, smell the fire of the candles, respond with a loud *Amen*, make the sign of the cross, touch the water in the baptismal font, and wonder at the images and symbols that are all around. What Jesus does here is sure to engage us all.

A Note on Holy Communion

In this service we celebrate a sacred ritual of the Christian Church called the Eucharist, or the Lord's Supper. In this rite we recall the last meal that Jesus had with his disciples. In this blessed meal we have our eyes opened and we recognize Him in the breaking of the bread. Though our faith is grounded in history, this liturgy is not merely a nostalgic looking back at the past - it is a celebration and a deep recognition that in this meal our Lord Jesus Christ is truly and really present with us in the bread and the wine. We cling to the hope of resurrection that will be ours when all things will be fully redeemed and restored in Him. All baptized Christians who have a sincere sorrow for their sin and see in this holy mystery the true body and blood of Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Service Notes for the 6th Sunday of Easter

The Sixth Sunday of Easter continues the mood of Easter joy. The scripture lessons continue to explore the theme of resurrection from various perspectives. In Acts, Paul and his companions travel to Philippi, where they proclaim the good news. Their message is met with open and eager hearts, leading to the conversion of Lydia and her household. In the book of Revelation, heaven is described as a perfect city—a city with no temple since God is everywhere present, making his home among its inhabitants. A glimpse of the new and glorious Jerusalem. And in the Gospel, Jesus heals a man who had been ill for many years. We come today to receive the healing that only Jesus can give.

Greeting and Welcome

The congregation stands and faces the back of the sanctuary. We begin with a procession with the cross leading the way, representing

our life in Christ -our journey from death to life. Some bow as the cross passes, honoring the mystery of salvation.

Invocation and Blessing of New Cross

En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo.

All Amen.

We praise the Lord for the cross of Christ!

All We praise the Lord for Christ's willingness to bear it.

By the cross we are saved.

All With the cross we are baptized.

Under the cross we live.

All Because of the cross we are forgiven.

In the cross we glory.

All Through the cross we come to eternal life.

Praise the Lord for the cross of Christ!

All Let us take up the cross and follow him.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All Who made heaven and earth.

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, who in the passion of your blessed Son

made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life

and

peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of

the

Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

Bless, O Lord Jesus Christ, this cross, the cross by which you snatched

the world from Satan's grasp and the cross from which you have overcome the enemy and the world. May this symbol of salvation be sanctified in the name of the Father, + and of the Son, + and of the Holy + Spirit, and may all who bow and pray before this holy cross,

by

Your power and grace alone, receive comfort in body and soul.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Rise, Shine, You People (825)

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded with grace
unbounded.

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Song, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

Confession and Forgiveness

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not
in us

**All But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will
forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

All Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

All Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

All Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

Silence is Kept

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

**All Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful
and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word,
and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we
have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of
Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew
us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk
in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for
His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant
of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Let us pray

All God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Savior Jesus Christ.

This is the Feast (pg.155)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ the lamb who was slain,

Whose blood set us free_ to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb_ who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!.

The Scripture Readings

Acts 16:9-15

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the [b] district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she

was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed; on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb... And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 16th chapter.

All Glory to You, O Lord.

John 5:1-9

Sometime later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie; the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked

him, "Do you want to get well?" "Sir," the ill man replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes ahead of me." Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Creed

All I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection + of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (411)

**I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus
God set the stars to give light to the world, The star of my life is
Jesus**

**In Him there is no darkness at all The night and the day are both
alike**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of God Shine in my heart Lord
Jesus**

**I want to see the brightness of God, I want to look at Jesus
Clear Sun of righteousness shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father**

**In Him there is no darkness at all The night and the day are both
alike**

**The Lamb is the light of the city of God Shine in my heart Lord
Jesus**

**I'm looking for the coming of Christ, I want to follow Jesus
When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy
of Jesus**

In Him there is no darkness at all The night and the day are both alike

The Lamb is the light of the city of God Shine in my heart Lord

Jesus

Sermon

The Prayer of the Church

After the pastor says Lord in Your Mercy, all respond with **Hear our Prayer.**

For a Blessed Easter Season as we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus

For blessing in our outreach; CDC; LINC, Presa Community Center.

Pastors Philip, Roy, Naresh, Matt and all church planters.

For peace, for the well-being of the Church, and for the unity of all.

For U.S. Leaders: President Joe, Governor Greg, Mayor Ron. Church Leaders; LCMS President Matt, District President Mike.

For those in Military: Jarred, Alissa, Mark, Tom, Thomas, Ricky, Julian

For the strength and divine energy to turn toward our enemies in love.

For Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

The people of Ukraine

Artie Rogers

Bruce Simon

Tillie Cropper

Sue Burgdorfer

Diane Beasley

Diana Landgraf

Teresa Medellin (neighbor of Alicia Guerrero)

Rosa Figueroa (friend of Alva-Alicia)

Reina Cox and baby Randall

Jo Ann Mallow

Mildred Westphal

Joyce Bauer
Daniel Stubbs
Robert Farris (brother-in-law of Susan Pennington)
Jenna, Sarah, Samuel (friends of Michael Cruz)
Earline Willeford
Albert Pedroza (neighbor of Thomas Robledo)
Norma Ann (sister of Patricia Perez)
Rev. Bill Johnson
Beatrice (sister of America Alderete)
Michael Dean (nephew of Melissa and Jim Hild)
Cayley (granddaughter of Robert and Linda Chetwood)
Delia Flores
Everett and Keith Mason
Yesenia (daughter of Anna Marquez)
Vicky Dean (sister of Melissa Hild)
Austin Hernden
Robin Beasley Jr

The Offering

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (805)

**Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Service of the Sacrament

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, angels and archangels and the whole of creation speaks forever of your glory:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen!

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and dearth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us to faithfully eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to in His own testament. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate, with all the faithful, the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

All Amen!

The Consecration

The Acclamation and The Invitation

As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

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

Behold the Lamb of God, behold Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

La paz del Señor sea con ustedes.

All Y también contigo

Sharing of the Peace

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying 'Peace be with you' as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for reception of the Holy Supper.

The Lamb of God

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

Eucharistic Dismissal

Thank The Lord

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; Tell everyone what He has done.

Let everyone who seeks the Lord, Rejoice, and proudly bear His name.

**He recalls His promises, and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Prayer

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You, that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

Lift Every Voice and Sing (964)

**Lift ev'ry voice and sing Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.**

**Let our rejoicing rise High as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.**

**Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun, Of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.**

**Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chast'ning rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;**

**We have come, treading our path through the blood of the
slaughtered,**

**Out from the gloomy past, Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

**God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might, Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.**

**Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget
Thee;**

**Shadowed beneath Thy hand, May we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.**

Serving Today @ St. Paul

Music	Jim Wollmann, Judy Foerster
Duty Elders	George Fernandez, Rick Garza, Paul Mallow
Altar Server	Juan Munoz Jr.
Lector	Michael Cruz
Preacher/Celebrant	Rev. Dave Murillo (davem@stpaulsa.org)
CDC Director	Deborah Stephenson (deborahs@stpaulsa.org)
Deaconess	Claire Jackson

Announcements

Bible Study Opportunities This Week

We have ongoing online zoom classes throughout the week - all are invited!

(Meeting ID #2105327341 No Password required)

Monday @ 6:30 (Deaconess Claire - Women's Bible Study)

Tuesday @ 6:30 (Pastor Dave - Exodus Bible Study)

Confirmation Class

Confirmation class will meet Saturday from 10am - 1pm.

Church Planning Council

The church council will meet this Monday, May 23rd @ 6:30.

Child Development Center Board

The CDC board will meet this Thursday @ 6:30.

Thank You!

The Fernandez family would like to thank our St. Paul Lutheran family for your kindness and support as we mourn the loss of our beloved Henrietta G. Fernandez. Your prayers, actions, and kind words have reminded us how the Lord works through each of us to spread His love and warm embrace to one another, especially in times of hardship and sorrow. A special Thank You to those helped plan, supply, set up, tear down, or serve food at the memorial. Your efforts helped make it a warm and loving event for which we are grateful.

Sincerely,
The Fernandez Family

Upcoming Events

May 29 - The Feast of the Ascension with the Rite of Confirmation

June 5 - The Feast of Pentecost with Outdoor Worship and Block Party