

Holy Thursday April 1, A.+D. 2021

Welcome to Saint Paul Lutheran Church.

As a member congregation of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, we are committed to the Word and Sacraments of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you are visiting with us this weekend, please sign our Record of Fellowship in each pew.

Serving this Week at St. Paul Lutheran Church:

Acolyte: Nevaeh Contreras
Pastor – Rev. Jared Hartman
Secretary - Kim Cornett
Organist – Cindy Bloedorn

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† About Communion at St. Paul: †

The Lord's Table is open to all members of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod. Oneness at Communion pre-supposes oneness in doctrine. However, if you would like to come forward to receive a blessing, please keep your hands folded and step up to the Pastor. Thank you for respecting our teachings. If you would like to learn more about communion at St. Paul, feel free to make an appointment with Pastor Hartman.

Members and Visitors, please sign the Record of Fellowship which is located at the end of the pew. – Thank you.





Tune and text: Public domain

+ SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Exhortation

- **P** I will go to the altar of God,
- to God my exceeding joy.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

Sit

Confessional Address

During this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that prevents us from trusting in God and loving each other. Since it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ on this night when He instituted this blessed meal for our salvation, it is proper that we complete our Lenten discipline by diligently examining ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do. This holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. As our Lord on this night exemplified this love by washing His disciples' feet, so we by our words and actions serve one another in love. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with the wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

 \mathbf{P} Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins, imploring God our Father for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- O almighty God, merciful Father, P
- $\overline{\mathbf{C}}$ I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.
- Amen.
- P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?
- \mathbf{C} Yes.
- \mathbf{P} Let it be done for you as you believe.

Absolution

- $[\mathbf{P}]$ In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

Blessing

- Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may \mathbf{P} your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in + peace.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day Holy (Maundy) Thursday

- \mathbf{P} The Lord be with you.
- \mathbf{C} And also with you.
- P Let us pray. O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.





Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Revelation 3:14-22

14"And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: 'The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation.

15"I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! ¹⁶So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

19Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.

20Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²²He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.""

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Music Offering

St. Paul Choir

"Behold the Lamb" Arr. Mengel

Verse

Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

Holy Gospel Luke 22:7–20

 $[\mathbf{P}]$ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter. Glory to You, O Lord.

⁷Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." ⁹They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" ¹⁰He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters ¹¹ and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹²And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." ¹³And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

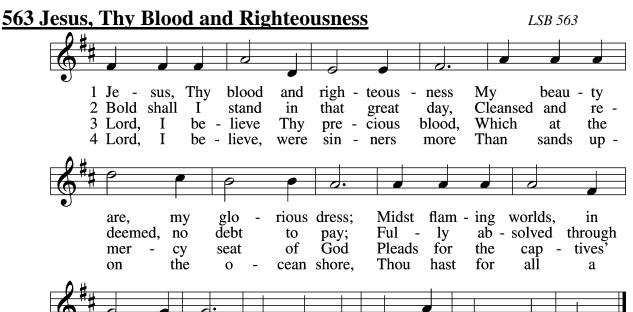
¹⁴And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

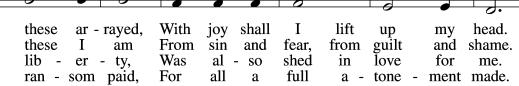
This is the Gospel of the Lord. \mathbf{C}

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit







- When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies, This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me, For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Sermon "The Deadly Sin of having a lukewarm relationship with God" –

Revelation 3:14-22

Malady: complacency - being content with earthy wealth while being poor in being a good neighbor - selfish.

Means: Jesus conquers so that one can live a zealous spiritual life.

Introduction: [illustration - thermos mug hot/cold]

We all know what this is - a thermos mug. For the most part we enjoy drinking our coffee or tea HOT, and our soft drinks COLD. We like our milk COLD, or our hot chocolate HOT - I don't know anyone who drinks their milk lukewarm. The same goes for our spiritual well-being.

Now Laodicea was situated in the neighborhood of hot springs. Emitting lukewarm water from the mouth was a figure which its citizens could easily understand. Laodicea was located at the confluence of three great highways - it rapidly grew into a great commercial and financial centre. It was the home of millionaires - it was city of bankers and finance [*76 Hendriksen] 'They raised flocks of sheep which produced fine black wool. They were also known for their medicines, in particular eye and ear ointments' [^96 Brighton].

The citizens of Laodicea were rich--and they knew it! They were unbearable. Even the church [members] manifested this same proud, defiant, conceited attitude. Perhaps they imagined that their wealth was a sign of God's special favor. At any rate they began to think that they were 'all it.' [*76] You might know of people like them - who take God's blessings for granted or as if they deserved them. Such people have little or no compassion for those who are less fortunate. They fail to love their neighbor as themselves and pass up opportunities to reach out to others in caring, helpful ways.

Who speaks (2:18)

Christ addresses himself as 'the Amen, the witness, the faithful and true one, the source of the creation of God.' The person who says "amen" is acknowledging that a proclaimed word or message is valid, true, in force; he is publicly confessing his faith in what has been said. [^ 97] "Amen" has nothing to do with gender; it appears 8x in the Revelation of Jesus. Christ is also the source of creation.

What He Knows (2:2-4) ^B

Christ knows that the church members as being 'lukewarm.' Lukewarm, tepid flabby, half-hearted, limp, always ready to compromise, indifferent, listless: that 'we're-all-good-people-here-in-Laodicea' attitude. [*76] 'The sin of apathy' [^ 101].

'How does a half-hearted Christian behave? He feels prosperous and content. He has everything he needs. He doesn't feel the need for revival or the need for self-sacrifice, no more church or Holy Communion. What we have here is a moderate amount of religion. He isn't fanatic or excessive. He doesn't like those who eagerly support more warmth and life in the congregation. Everything is just fine as it is [Giertz 532].

Jesus says that what you don't realize is that it's you who are pitiful, poor, blind, and naked! To this congregation, and therefore to its typical member, the Lord says, 'You say that you are rich and have become richer right along, and have kept whatever you have gained, and that you have need of nothing whatsoever; but you do not know that you, yes you yourself, are the one who is wretched and pitiful and beggarly and blind and naked.' Notice, it is not 'miserable' but 'pitiful'. Who is more to be pitied than an individual who imagines that he is a fine Christian, whereas in reality the Christ Himself is utterly disgusted with him? [*77]

Call to Repent (2:5-6) ^B

Christ 'urges his church not only to heed the warning but also to hear his gracious counsel and invitation. He speaks a stinging word of Law, of anger and judgment--the strongest in all of the seven letters-so as to prepare his church to hear his Gospel invitation [^ 101]. 'Christ calls his church to come to him for spiritual wealth--spiritual insight and clothing--so that the shame of her sin could be covered with the garment of salvation' [^ 102].

Christ is saying that what you need is eye salve, the Spirit's ointment that allows you to discover what a sufficient dose of Christianity is: loving God above all else and your neighbor as yourself. He who sees this also sees his own poverty and nakedness. He starts looking for the "gold refined by fire" that exists only with Christ that was purified in the fire of suffering when He took our sins with Him into death's melting pot. He can give us garments that are the righteousness of God--the poor become rich, the naked are clothed, and the frozen are warmed. There is nothing in between [Giertz 532].

Promise (2:7) ^B

Christ closes this letter to those in Laodicea with a promise. To the one who conquerors, I will grant to him to sit with me on my throne. To the victor goes the crown - the Christian victor is the one who repents and places his trust in Jesus, mankind's victorious Lord and Savior!

In summary, 'in Christ's eyes, a half-hearted Christian can be considered worse than not being a Christian at all. He spews these words out of His mouth as if it were something that was repulsive, distasteful, and sickening' [Giertz 532].

Those who are spiritually lukewarm are living in-between and will end up on the cold-hearted side and be lost forever. It is obvious that those who are haters of God will be condemned, but also those who live a lukewarm spiritual life will suffer the same fate.

To those who are zealous in their faith, their love of God and neighbor can become contagious. Their humble, caring faith moves people to wonder how they can keep their chin up, or the fire of their love of God and neighbor going? It is the refining fire of the Holy Spirit that brings one to faith and graciously keeps one in the saving faith of trusting in Jesus! Amen!

Let us now review these past seven letters to seven churches in Asia Minor. Each of the seven messages began with a statement about Christ (Some of the things that were said about Him in the first chapter of Revelation were repeated.) They ended with a promise to those who prevail. Christ acknowledged him, he'll be clothed in righteousness, all will be forgiven, and his name will be in the book of life. Christ has written His name on him; he belongs to Christ. He lives the new yet secret life, eats the secret manna, and carries a secret stone with a name the world doesn't recognize.

Someday the believer in Jesus will also share Christ's glory in His kingdom and eat of the tree of life in God's paradise.

Oh, that we were there! Yes, oh that we were there! In the name of Jesus. Amen

Prayer of the Church



Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary ... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



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.

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.





Distribution

Resurrection Memorial Carillon

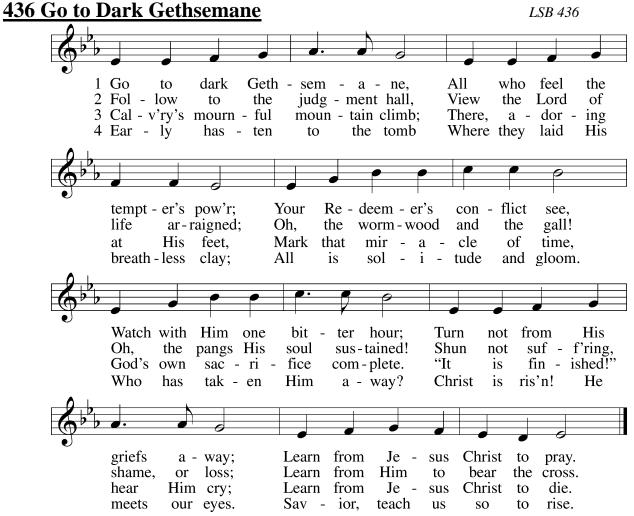
"Lord, who at Thy First Eucharist" - Gibbons

Music Offering

St. Paul Choir

"This Do in Remembrance of Me."

Arr. Hunnicutt



Text and tune: Public domain



628 Your Table I Approach

LSB 628



- 1 Your ta - ble Ι ap - proach;
- 2 Lord, I con-fess my sins
- 3 Your bod - y and Your blood,

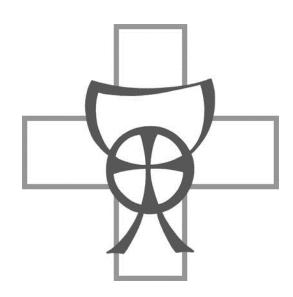
4 Search not how this takes place,

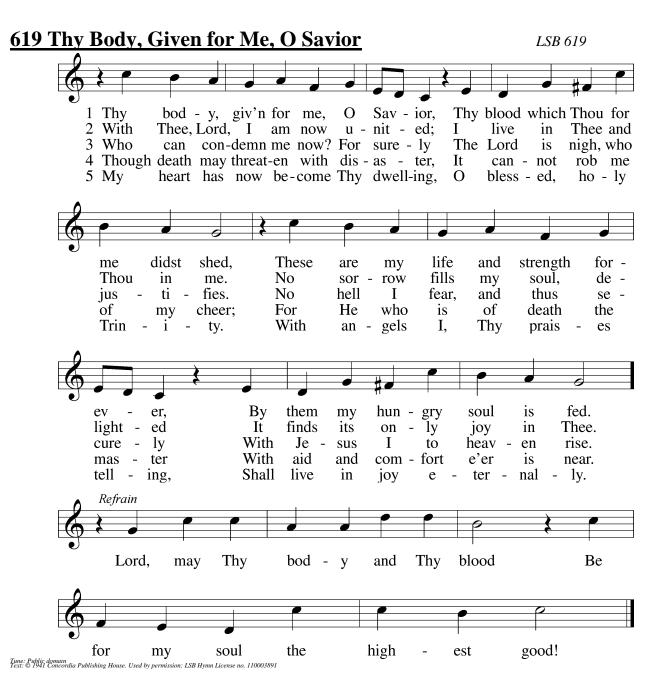
Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer. And mourn their wretch-ed bands; Once slain and shed for me, This won-drous mys-ter-y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to con-trite heart is sure to find For - give-ness at Your hands. Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty. God can ac - com-plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.
- Oh, may I never fail 6 To thank You day and night For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.





Stand

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

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 through the same 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.

C Amen.

Sit

+ STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR +

What do the stripping of the altar on Good Friday and the replacing of the paraments for Easter symbolize?

Jesus underwent great humiliation during His trial when His clothing was stripped from Him (Matt. 27:28). When Jesus died, His followers came and wrapped His body with linen cloths. When the women came to the tomb three days later, they expected to find His body there but only found His grave clothes. Jesus left the clothes of death behind Him. The stripping of the altar and the replacing of the paraments make us part of the wonderful events surrounding Jesus' death and crucifixion. We are not observers but participants. The altar is fully clothed again on Easter, proclaiming to us the things the women saw when they went to the tomb of Jesus.

Choir will speak the odd-numbered verses and congregation will speak the evennumbered verses in boldface.

Psalm 22 Psalm 22:1-31

¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,* and by night, but I | find no rest.

³Yet you are | holy,*

enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

⁴In you our fathers | trusted;*

they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

⁵To you they cried and were | rescued;*

in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

6But I am a worm and | not a man,*

scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.

⁷All who see me | mock me;*

they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

8"He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him; * let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!"

⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;*

you made me trust you at my | mother's breasts.

10On you was I cast | from my birth,*

and from my mother's womb you have | been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me,

for trouble | is near,*

and there is | none to help.

¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;*

strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;

¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,* like a ravening and roaring | lion. ¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are | out of joint;* my heart is like wax; it is melted with- | in my breast; ¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;* you lay me in the | dust of death. ¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me;* a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my | hands and feet— ¹⁷I can count | all my bones—* they stare and gloat | over me; ¹⁸they divide my garments a- | mong them,* and for my clothing they | cast lots. ¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!* O you my help, come quickly | to my aid! ²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,* my precious life from the power | of the dog! ²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!* You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen! ²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers;* in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you: ²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,* and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel! ²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his | face from him,* but has heard, when he | cried to him. ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;* my vows I will perform before those who | fear him. ²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!* May your hearts live for- | ever! ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,* and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you. ²⁸For kingship belongs | to the LORD,*

and he rules over the | nations.

19

All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;* before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep him- | self alive.
 Posterity shall | serve him;* it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- | ation;

³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,* that he has | done it.

All leave the church in silence.

Acknowledgments

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2021 Lenten Series "The Seven Deadly Sins of the Church"

April 2nd: St. Paul – Good Friday – 11:45am Cross Walk, meet at Wisner Museum – Services at 12:00 Noon and 6:00pm

April 3rd – Holy Saturday –Great Vigil of Easter – NO Service. Take a few moments for extra prayer at home this evening.

April 4th – Easter Sunday – The Resurrection of our Lord!

St. Paul – Wisner – Easter Sunrise Service – 6:00am

St. Paul – Wisner – SPY Easter Breakfast – 7:00pm

St. Paul – Wisner – Sunday School – 8:00am (No Adult Class)

St. Paul – Wisner – Easter Festival Service – 9:00am

St. John & Zion – Joint Easter Services with St. Paul – Wisner **April 11**th – SPY Dinner at Parsonage – 5:00pm



Usher and Elder List for Holy Week.

St. Paul Acolyte:

Friday, April 2nd: No Acolyte

Sunday, April 4th, 6:00 am, Sunrise: Sidney Feyerherm, Brooklyn Siebrandt, Caidence James, Bria Hassler

Sunday, April 4th: 9:00 am, Festival: Laura Borgelt, Lindsey Borgelt, Dustin Dittmer, Sylas Delmont

St. Paul Ushers:

Friday, Noon April 2nd: Randy Nissen and Nate Raabe Friday, 6:00pm: Heath Cornett and Adam Ott

Sunday, April 4th, 6:00 am, Sunrise:

Michael Borgelt and Keary Raabe

Sunday, April 4th: 9:00 am, Festival:

Troy Kimble and Aric Butterfield

St. Paul Elders:

Friday, Noon April 2nd: No Communion 6:00pm, April 2nd: No Communion

Sunday, April 4th, 6:00 am, Sunrise: Gary McBride

Sunday, April 4th: 9:00 am, Festival: Alan Borgelt

Scripture Readings for the Second Sunday of Easter:

Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31. The Lord bless your reading of His Word.



