

the holy eucharist

The Fifth Sunday of Easter Sunday, May 18, 2025 + 10:30 a.m.

Peace Be With you.

Welcome! We are glad that you have joined us for today's liturgy! If you are a visitor today, please complete one of the ivory and red cards found in the pew rack and hand them to one of the ushers on the way out; we have been expecting you!

St. Paul-Reformation is the first *Reconciling In Christ* congregation in America, publicly welcoming the LGBTQIA+ community since 1982. We continue to welcome all people regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, ability, economic status, or any other background to participate in the life of this congregation. You are welcome here...*always*.

All the baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If parents wish younger children to receive Communion, they may do so. We suggest that parents contact the pastors for information to inform children about Holy Communion. We believe that Christ is truly present with us in this Sacrament, offering us forgiveness of sins and new life.

Children who attend worship with their families are more likely to participate in worship as adults, so we encourage families to include their children in weekly services! Activity bags and a children's bulletin are available in the Narthex, the ushers will be glad to help you find them.

You are invited to light a prayer candle near the front of the church either before or after the liturgy, or during Holy Communion. Please see that your candle is stabilized.

We wish you and your whole family a blessed Eastertide as we live into these great fifty days of rejoicing!

The SPR Nursery is staffed by attendant Ava Hacker from 9:00 a.m. through 11:45 a.m. Little ones are welcome!

entrance rite

Today's hymns may be found in "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (red hymnal).

Prelude

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing Arr. Michael Ryan

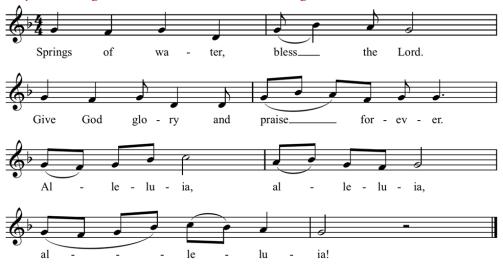
Stand

Sprinkling Rite

In the name of the Father, and of the X Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ...unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

All join to sing the acclamation; the cantor sings the verses.



#391 | Entrance Hymn

This Joyful Eastertide

Please turn to face the procession as it enters the nave; it is customary to bow the head as it passes.





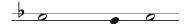
Alleluia! Christ is risen!



Christ is risen indeed! Al-le-lu-ia!

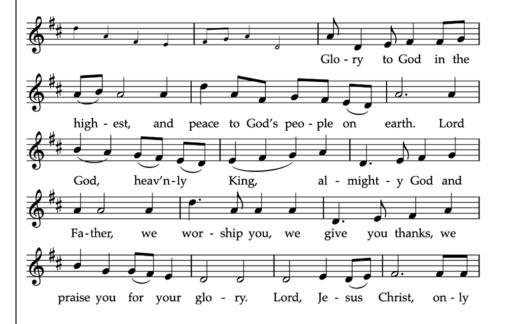


The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

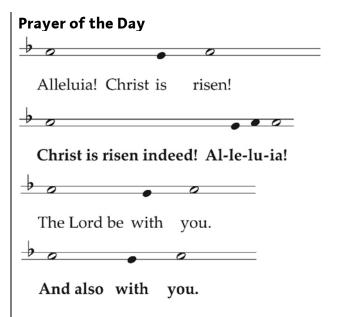


And also with you.

Gloria in Excelsis







LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Sit | Children's Time

First Reading + Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment

three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Psalm + 148 *The cantor sings the refrain once; all join thereafter.*



Praise the Lord from the heavens; give praise in the heights. Praise the Lord, all angels above; give praise, all hosts.

Praise the Lord, sun and moon; give praise, shining stars. Praise the Lord, highest heavens, all waters above the heavens.

Praise the Lord, you heavens above, for God spoke and you were created. You were established forever; your courses shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth, creatures of the sea and all the oceans, Fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy winds that yield to God's command, *Refrain*



All mountains and hills, all fruit trees and cedars Beasts and all cattle, reptiles and flying birds,

All rulers and peoples, you that govern the nations, Children and older ones, too, join to praise the Lord. *Refrain*

Praise the name of the Lord, for God alone is exalted. The splendor of God's name reaches beyond heaven and earth.

God gives strength to the people. God be praised by all the saints, By the children of Israel who are near to the Lord. *Refrain*

Second Reading + Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

All sing to welcome the Gospel:



W. Everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another.

Holy Gospel + John 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

This is the Gospel of the Lord!

Praise to you, O Christ!

Sit

Sermon

#368

Hymn of the Day

Stand

With High Delight Let Us Unite

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

*bow

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.

Stand or kneel

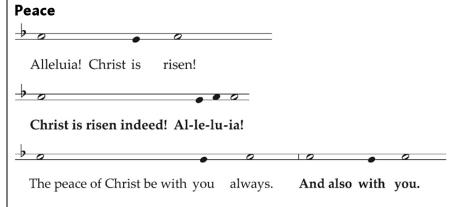
Prayers of Intercession

The response to each petition is:

God of life,

hear our prayer

Stand



Please share the peace of the risen Christ with those near to you!

LITURGY OF tHE EUCHARIST

Sit | Preparation of the Altar

Rigaudon

André Campra (1660-1744), arr. John Leavitt

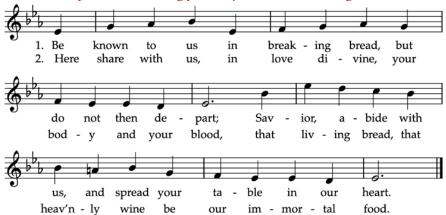
If you are giving electronically, you may use the QR code at right, which is safe, fast, and efficient! Thank you!



Stand

Offertory

The assembly stands as the gifts are presented and sings:



Prayer

Great Thanksgiving



Proper Preface

Sanctus



Stand or kneel

Stand or | **Eucharistic Prayer**

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:



Therefore, with this bread and cup...share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit...with all your saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants...in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

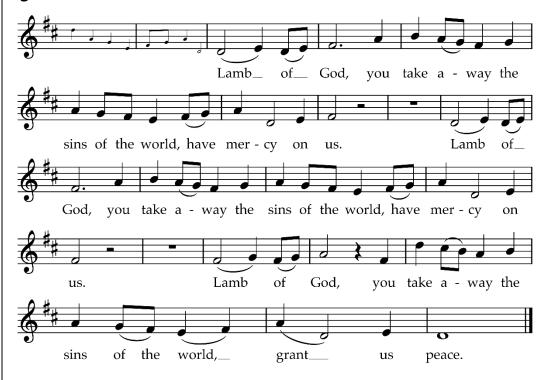




Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb!

Sit | Agnus Dei

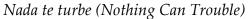


The invitation to communion comes from the Lord Jesus himself: all baptized Christians are welcome to receive the body and blood of the Lord; no one is turned away. Holy Communion will be distributed by intinction, with the ministers placing the host on your tongue or in your hand. If medical or health reasons dictate that you cannot receive one of the elements, please remember that the Church has always taught that Christ is present in either element alone; gluten-free wafers are available. Those wishing to receive a blessing rather than communion are invited to cross their arms.

Music at the Distribution

Cantor sings Christ our Passover

#835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High!





Stand | Prayer

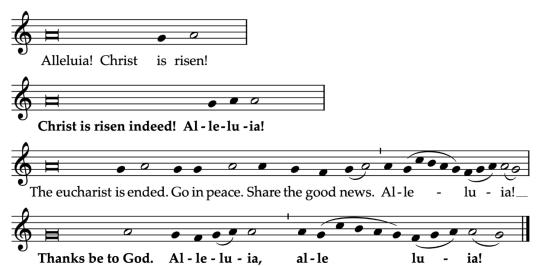
sending rite

Sit | Announcements

Stand

Benediction

Dismissal



Postlude

Fantasia: The Resurrection Eurydice V. Osterman (b. 1950)

Acknowledgements: Reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-703900. All rights reserved. Printed by permission of CCLI License # 22240557 and streamed by permission of CCLI License # 22240564. Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number SAS003656. Springs of Water by Donald K. Fellows © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc. Cranbrook Mass by Robert Lehman © 2024 Birnamwood Publications. Psalm 148 by Hal H. Hopson © 1988 Hope Publishing Co. Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread text by James Montgomery, public domain. Music by Thomas Rayenscroft, public domain.



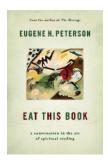
Parish announcements



PRAYERS *Please remember in your prayers all those sick in mind, body, or spirit: especially,* John Whalen, Mark Sandberg, Hilary Hund, Jennifer Walding, Leo Treadway, LeRoy Sorenson, Joni Ripley, Janice Erickson, Susie Adams, Shirley Heyer, Anna Swenson-Seleen, Anthony Hedlund, Joe McKinney, Denine Harrell, Janyce Kovach, Cypress Stupica, Janis Lundin; *those having birthdays:* Janice Erickson, Ian Matenaer, Kenyatta Peyton, Marilyn Harder; *anniversaries:* Diane and Tim Brennan.

SUMMER LITURGY + We move to **9:30 a.m. Summer Liturgy** starting <u>next Sunday</u>, <u>May 25.</u> On some summer Sundays, we will gather for post-liturgy fellowship outside; on others, we will gather in the Lower Auditorium as usual.

BIBLE MATTERS + Please join us this coming **Wednesday**, **May 21 at 10:00 a.m**. in the lower level for this time of study, fellowship, and learning as we look forward to the coming week's lectionary texts.



Our **ADULT FORUM DURING EASTERTIDE** + "Eat this Book" by Eugene Peterson. Sunday Adult Forum is a gem of SPR, and we hope you will join us every **Sunday from 9:10-10:10 a.m.** as we continue to learn together. Books are available for \$15 in the narthex and include a reading schedule. Join us!

THE DAILY WORK 25th anniversary celebration and annual Steps to Success fundraiser is coming up on **Tuesday**, **May 20th** beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church events hall in downtown Minneapolis. Plenty of free parking! Register at daily-work.org on the events page or see Rich Gehrman to support this highly effective employment ministry, which was founded by St. Paul Reformation and other Lutheran churches in this area.

TRANSFORMING FAMILIES + Nico Lang is a longtime LGBTQ+ journalist and author of the recently released book American Teenager, which documents the lives of trans kids and their loved ones in seven different states. The book speaks back to extremist anti-trans rhetoric about youth by showing trans kids as they actually are: powerfully human. Nico will be in Minneapolis next week for a discussion and Q&A with Transforming Families, which will be held at the Pride Cultural Arts Center (1201 Harmon Place) on **Saturday, May 24**. The event starts at 1pm. Please consider attending this event.

SUMMER LYCEUM: CONFIRMATION...FOR ADULTS? + Believe it or not, a sizeable group of adults at SPR have requested a time to re-do their confirmation instruction. While we can't do a full three years in just a month, now is your opportunity to re-engage with some basics of the faith and the Lutheran tradition. Our tour through confirmation is for anyone who was distracted the first time (teenagers never are...), or those who are new to the Lutheran tradition who would like to know more. SPR's Summer Lyceum will run each Wednesday in June (June 4, 11, 18, 25) from 6:30-8:00 p.m. You can join us for one, or for all. The Good News: everyone passes, and you don't have to memorize a thing!



Well done, Good and faithful servant! + PARISH ADMINISTRATOR JENNIFER WALDING RETIRES + In June, St. Paul-Reformation's Parish Administrator Jennifer Walding will retire (effective June 15). Jennifer has been with St. Paul-Reformation for eighteen years, wearing numerous hats and keeping the ship afloat. She begins a much-deserved

retirement with her home church (Ss. Mary and Martha, Eagan), where she serves as an Episcopal priest, as well as time with her grandchildren who live in Portland, Oregon. We invite you to mark on your calendars **Sunday**, **July 13**, when we will formally bless Jennifer and thank her for her service with a reception after the 9.30 a.m. liturgy. In addition, we encourage you to contribute to a gift for her by visiting the "Donate" button at www.stpaulref.org and clicking "Walding Retirement Gift." Thank you, Jennifer!

saints and holy ones this week

Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160; Sunday, May 18, 2025 + Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.

Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330; Wednesday, May 21, 2025 + Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.

Nicolaus Copernicus, died 1543; Leonhard Euler, died 1783; scientists; Saturday, May 24, 2025 + These two men were both scientists who helped to explain the wonders of God's universe. Copernicus is best known for promoting the idea that the sun, not the earth, is at the center of our solar system. Euler was one of the founders of pure mathematics, and contributed to many other fields.

Leaders in this liturgy

Rev. Dr. Patrick H. Shebeck | Presider Sr. Stacie Lightner, DMA Margaret Schuster, Amy Rouillard

Alice Swan, Diane Aase Jim Halgerson, Joe Voss,

Kristen Damberg, Jan Swenson

Dawn Klesk Open

Alice Swan, Linda Dahlen | Coffee and Treats

Cantor

Assisting Ministers

Lectors

Ushers/Greeters

cantor Acolyte

calendar for the week of May 18

Sunday, May 18

Adult Forum 9:10 a.m. Godly Play 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Coffee and Treats 11:30 a.m. Deep Dive Confirmation 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday May 20

Pastors' Text Study 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday May 21

10:00 a.m. Bible Matters – In Person 6:00 p.m. Hand Bell Cleaning 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sunday, May 25

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Coffee and Treats 10:30 a.m.

