

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ APRIL 30, 2023

The one who
enters by the
gate is the
shepherd of
the sheep.

JOHN 10:2



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 250 * 205 West Jefferson Street
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."

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If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.



Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

please stand in body or spirit

Thanksgiving for Baptism

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you
are the everlasting wellspring.**

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the
firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them
we are born anew.

**Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for
waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and
creatures.**

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the
new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our
witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for
all.**

Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth,
bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring
peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

#502

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.**

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

page 140

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

please be seated

First Reading

Acts 2:42 - 47

⁴²[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:19 - 25

¹⁹It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Joyce Schlesselmann

please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia"

page 142

Gospel

John 10:1 - 10

The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**

[Jesus said:] ¹"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

please be seated
Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

please stand in body or spirit
Hymn of the Day

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

#789

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

please be seated
Offering

please stand in body or spirit

Offertory

"Let the Vineyards be Fruitful"

#182

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.....Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

please be seated

HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Communion Hymns

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

#379

"Have No Fear, Little Flock"

#764

please stand in body or spirit

Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

#536

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

"CHRIST IS ALIVE"



Welcome: With the psalmist we proclaim, "You prepare a table before me ... my cup overflows" (Psalm 23:5). Welcome to worship as we praise and thank the Lord our Shepherd.

We invite everyone to enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship before worship in the Gathering Space. Please join us!

In Our Prayers: "Unspoken prayer concerns" Huth Schlesselman, Nathan Vanderlinden, Gordon Ives, Dewey Jobe, Judy Smith, and Kyle Luetjen.

Hear our prayers....



Sharon Steigerwalt, Roger Kruep (grandpa of Kash Kruep), Linda Mehrens (sister of Teresa Viebrock), Jamie Simon, Dena Sikoutris, Joseph Fuelling (nephew of Paul Fuelling), Kathy Regekr, Bill Talbot (friend of Connie Gerken), Shirley Boose (mother of Melisa Balke), Annie Bright, Kiley Simon (friend of Jenna Nash), Karen Haase (sister-in-law of Gene Beckman), Jackie Ross (sister of Randy Healan), Rebecca Heimsoth (friend of Norma Schlesselman), Gerald Goodson (uncle of Melisa Balke), Ronnie Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marvin Logan (brother of Gale Logan), Marlin Lackas (brother-in-law of Paul Fuelling), Reagan Phillips, Bill Hampton, Alex Stevens (friend of Tina Ives), Jeffery Jones (son of Bonnie Bohling) and Adam Gumbel (son of Jim & Kim Gumbel).



Nursing Home: Vern Dean Bohling: *Ambrose*. Huth Schlesselman, Marie Viebrock, Florence VonHolten & Cecelia Wiedemann: *GSCC*. Kathy Hallauer: *Loving Arms*.

Military: Please keep all those who have served our country past and present in your prayers, especially: ENS David M. Gardner (son of Pam Balke), Private Bradyn Hood (grandson of Connie Gerken), MSgt. Jason Ostberg (son-in-law of Suzanne Lutjen) Lt. Col. Ron Poe, Cpt. Joseph Strathman, Sgt. Russell J. Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann) and Cpt. Wayne Wiedemann (grandson of Cecelia Wiedemann).



Prayers: If you would like your name added or removed from the prayer Need Prayer? list, please contact the church office at 668-3537.



One Stitch at a Time: The Sewing Group will meet on Monday, **May 1st** at 9:00am in the church basement. Everyone is welcome to join the sewing group.

LBPS: Little Blessing Preschool will be in session on Tuesday, **May 2nd** and Wednesday, **May 3rd** from 8:00am until 11:15pm in the church basement.



Little Blessings Preschool is now accepting enrollment for 2023-2024. If you have a little one who will be 3 or 4 by July 31st and wish to get them enrolled, please call Rhonda Schlesselman at 660-668-3823. We hope to keep our enrollment around 12 so you'll want to call soon to get your spot secured.



Health Care: The Benton County Health Department will be here on Thursday, **May 4th** from 8:00am until 10:00am to help you with your health care needs.

Graduates: On Sunday, **May 14th**, we will be honoring our graduating seniors during the worship service. One Stitch At A Time will be gifting each of them with a handmade quilt. We invite you to come give thanks for their involvement at St. Paul's, and bless them for the next step in their journey.



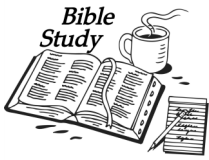
Baptismal Grace: On Sunday, **May 28th**, Parker Steward Fowler will be washed clean in the waters of Holy Baptism. We welcome him into the fellowship of faith that we all share through baptismal grace of God. Parker is the son of Jacob and Alyssa Fowler and was born on March 10, 2023.

Synod Assembly: Synod Assembly is **June 3rd** (online). Please remember our delegates Greg Bredehoeft, Janice Gerken, Norma Schlesselman and Kelly Viebrock in your prayers during those days.



Confirmation: On Sunday, **June 4th** we will share in the joy of the Rite of Confirmation for five of our members. They are Lucas Eckhoff, Wyatt Keith, Macy Luetjen, Bradyn Rehmer and Leighton Tinney.

World Hunger Fish Fry: On Sunday, **June 4th** we will have our annual World Hunger Fish Fry and Turkey dinner from 11:30am until 1:00pm. As always, we welcome all donations of crappie fillets. So if you need an excuse to go fishing, here it is!



Pastor's Bible Study: You are invited to join Pastor Stephen for a Bible study and conversation around the theme of Civic Life and Faith. This is an invitation into a conversation about religious liberty, the proper role of the church in relation to government, and many other critical topics. Yes, this has become a controversial and heated topic, but the church should be a place where we can have a thoughtful conversation and discussion about these issues. Thanks to everyone for feedback regarding when we could meet. Because summer schedules are crazy, we're going to have to bounce around a bit for these classes. So, we will meet at 7:00 pm in the Chapel on: Tuesday, **May 30**, Tuesday, **June 6**, Wednesday, **June 14**, Wednesday, **June 21**, Thursday, **July 6** and Thursday, **July 13**. We look forward to seeing you there!

~ * ~ **IN OUR COMMUNITY** ~ * ~

Performance: On Tuesday, **May 2**, State Fair Community College will hold its President's Concert at 7:00 pm in the Stauffacher Theater. Performing will be the SFCC Choir and SFCC/Community Concert Band. There is a reception starting at 6:15 pm with light refreshments before the concert, with the jazz band performing during that time. Come enjoy an evening of music and look for some familiar faces on stage!



Breakfast: All you can eat old time breakfast on Saturday, **May 6th** from 6:30am until 9:00am at the Cole Camp Senior Center. They will be serving sausage, biscuits & gravy, head cheese, fried potatoes, scrambled eggs, corn bread, coffee, milk and orange juice. This is a free will donation sponsored by the Cole Camp Museum.

Baccalaureate Service: The senior class of Cole Camp R-1 will hold their Baccalaureate Service on Wednesday, **May 10th**, following the Awards Ceremony in the high school gym. The Awards Ceremony begins at 6:00 pm and usually lasts an hour to an hour and a half. The public is invited to attend.



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 30:	8:45am	Confirmation
	9:00am	Sunday School / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion by Stations
Monday, May 1:	9:00am	Sewing Group
Tuesday, May 2:	8:00am	LBPS
Wednesday, May 3:	8:00am	LBPS
Thursday, May 4:	8:00am	BCHD
Saturday, May 6:	5:30pm	Casual Worship
Sunday, May 7:	8:45am	Confirmation
	9:00am	Sunday School / Adult Class
	10:00am	Worship Service
		Holy Communion at the Altar



~ * ~ Coming Events ~ * ~

May 14	.....	Mother's Day
May 28	.....	Baptism of Parker Fowler
May 29	.....	Memorial Day
June 4	.....	Confirmation Sunday
June 4	.....	World Hunger Fish Fry

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Ministers The Whole Congregation
Presiding Minister Pastor Stephen Zeller
Organist Lois Viebrock
Pianist Jeannette VonHolten
Altar Guild Glenalee Dillon & Suzanne Lutjen
Ushers Justin Tinney, Assistant Head Usher
..... Victoria Fox, John Oelrichs, Braden Poe & Ryan Schlesselman



Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 30, 2023

Assisting Minister Janice Gerken
Communion Assistants Virgil & Diann Holsten
Reader Rhonda Schlesselman
Children's Sermon Joyce Schlesselmann
Acolytes Grant Kullman & Khloe Viebrock
Flowers Tammie Heimsoth



Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ May 7, 2023

Assisting Minister Anne Goosen
Communion Assistants at the Altar
Reader Bill Viebrock
Children's Sermon Pastor Stephen Zeller
Acolytes Lucas Eckhoff & Kaylan Keith
Flowers Teresa Viebrock