# Fourth Sunday of Easter



May 11, 2025 10:00 am St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus



Are you new to St. Paul's? Do you have a prayer concern?

Do you have a question for one of our Pastoral Leaders?

Do you have a message for one of St. Paul's Staff?

Are you looking for more resources for your spiritual life?

If your answer is yes to any of these questions, please scan our QR code to share your needs with us.

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Eggertsville Campus Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11, 2025

Musician: Paul Storfer

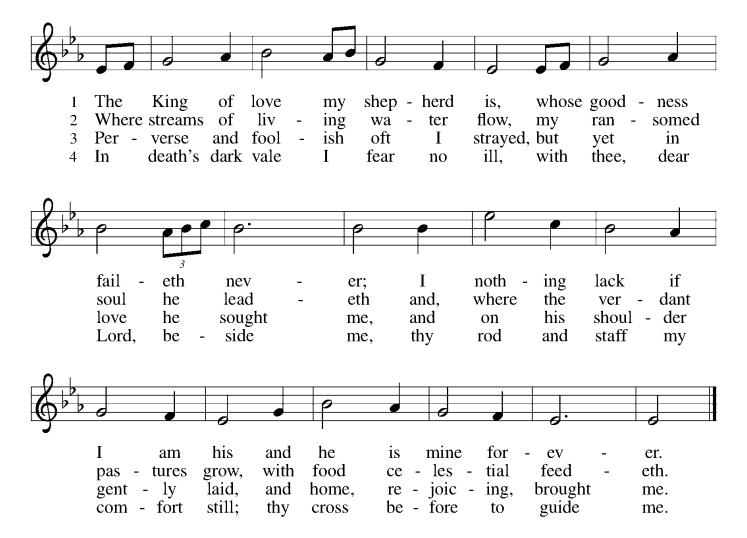
#### Confession

- P We begin worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. By the authority of Christ, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the 

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

#### Opening Hymn: LBW 456

# The King of Love My Shepherd Is



#### Apostolic Greeting

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

# Prayer of the Day

P O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C Amen

#### Children's Time

#### First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing were well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

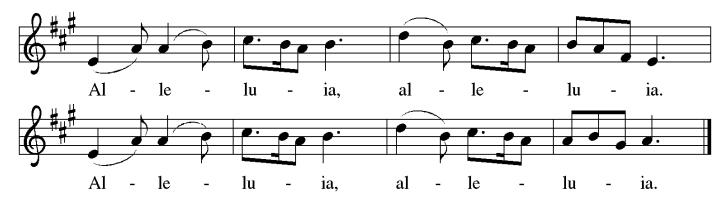
# Psalm 23 (read responsively)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

- A The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- C The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- A You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- C 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.
- A You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- C Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

# Gospel Acclamation

# Celtic Alleluia



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

- P The Holy Gospel according to John the Tenth Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Gospel: John 10:22-30

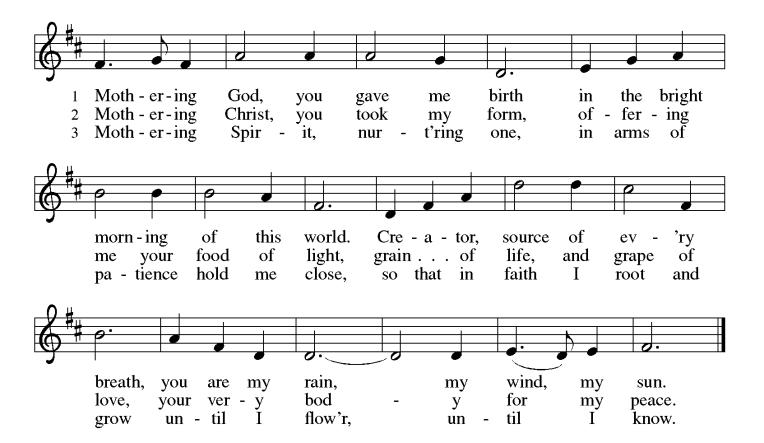
Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

#### Sermon

# Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth



Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342-c. 1413

Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

#### Apostles' Creed

- A With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the Church

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

A You tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with our non-human neighbors. Hear us, O God.

# C Your mercy is great.

A You lead all peoples along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

A You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care, especially the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

A This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close to those whose relationships with their families are difficult, and console all who grieve the loss of mother figures or the loss of children. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

A You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, your beloved child. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

A We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

#### C Amen.

#### Ways to Give to St. Paul's:

Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- Giving by Mail: Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/

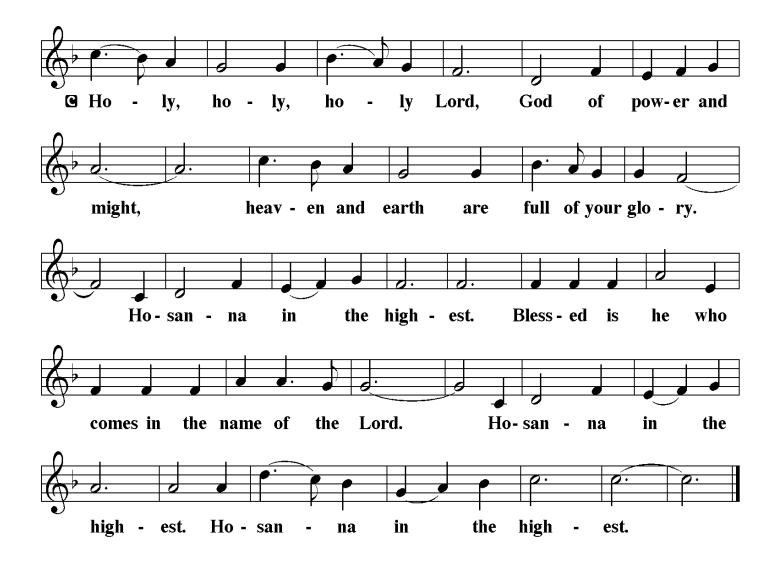


- P Let us pray.
- C Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here and in our planned giving be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.



# Dialogue and Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing their unending hymn:



#### Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, 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

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C 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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all. Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the Assisting Minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

## Communion Blessing

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

#### Prayer After Communion

- P Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
- C Amen.

#### **Benediction**

- P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...
- C Amen

#### Closing Hymn: ELW 547 (on the following page)

#### Sending

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

# Sent Forth by God's Blessing



#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 11-18, 2025

\*Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus\*

Sunday: 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum

9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

**Monday:** 4:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share

5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC

**Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study

5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)

Wednesday: 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting

6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging Meeting Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC

5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC

8:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Meeting at AC

**Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum

9:00-11:30 am: Al Deacon: Art and Worship

9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Deacons: 5/11: Martin Troutman; 5/18: Sara Gallagher

Ushers: 5/11: Scott Vahue & Marissa Vahue; 5/18: Bob Brown & Jeff Mols

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Julia Jarvis (Andrea Jarvis' daughter); Michelle Uro-Ramos (Dave Hornung's daughter); Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Sue Epstein

The funeral service for Ruth Blank will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2025 beginning at 11:00 am at the Amherst Campus.

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (\* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529

Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

Charles Scofield: Beechwood, 2235 Millersport Highway, #706, Getzville, NY 14068

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

#### PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

**Prayer Team Ministry:** Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

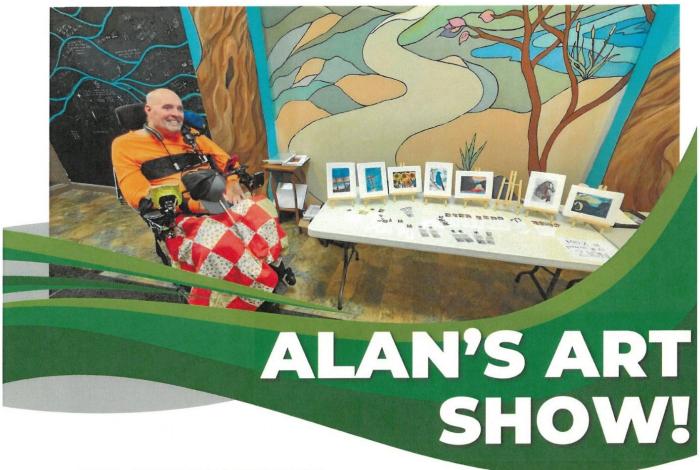
Nursery/Nursing Mom's Room: Located downstairs by the Sunday School room. There is a wall TV for streaming the Sunday worship service. Babies 0-24 months are welcome in the nursery and must be monitored by their parent.

**Daily Bread Food Truck:** The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:30-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

#### **NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The pantry hours for May are: Thursdays 5/15 and 5/29 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturday 5/24 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. May donations: cereal, crackers, and cooking oil.





# JOIN ALAN DEACON FOR ART AND WORSHIP



**May 18** 9:00 am-11:30 am

#### **About Our Event!**

Join Alan Deacon at St. Paul's Lutheran Church where he will be hosting an art show and collecting donations for the Daily Bread Food Truck!

The show will pause from 10 am - 11 am for service.

WHERE?

### **Event Highlights**

#### MEET THE ARTIST ◀

Meet the inspirational artist Alan Deacon, and see his amazing art up close!

#### **ATTEND WORSHIP** ◀

Attend live worship from 10-11 am hosted by Pastoral Leader Kristen!

#### SUPPORT CHARITY

100% of proceeds go directly to the **Daily Bread Food Truck** 



# + St. Paul's Mission + To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives, and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.

#### St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Robert Simpson Vice-President: Tim Johnson Treasurer: William Niblock Secretary: Scott Vahue

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

#### Pastoral Leaders

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

<u>Directors of Music</u>: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette

<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan

<u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka

<u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

#### Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226

St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm