

We Are Found

As Jesus in today's gospel prepares the disciples for his imminent departure, he tells them that they will look for him but won't be able to join him where he is going. It will not be long before the women are at the tomb in the early morning, only to find it empty.

We also look for Jesus, but perhaps we don't know that we are engaged in the search. We are constantly seeking purpose and answers, turning to self-help books, inspirational videos, exercise programs, and new ways of organizing our stuff. Billboards and magazine covers highlight our flaws while offering the next best solution to make us happy and well.

These opportunities can be compelling, and some of them will prove successful in managing some aspects of life. But these solutions don't turn up what we're really looking for: to be truly loved and known, secure and whole. We find this security only in the love of God. Yet, in this Easter season we are reminded that we do not need to seek Jesus; rather, Jesus seeks out and finds us. We cannot go where Jesus goes, leading the way through death to new life, but Jesus ultimately finds us wherever we are, even when we are most lost. The women found an empty tomb, but Jesus is not gone. The resurrected Jesus finds them!

In finding us, Jesus also directs our searching by giving us a commandment: "Love one another" (John 13:34). In seeking to love one another, we are reminded again and again that the great love of God has already found us.

JOHN 13:34

*Love
one another*

Cover: Clasped hands. Copyright © iStock/Bajak. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

20220515-EAS5 Tracks 1 and 2 ELCA-E

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

May 15, 2022

We are delighted to recognize high school graduates of St. Paul's today. It is our privilege to affirm these members of our congregation who have completed one phase of their lives and move with great expectations onto another. We present them with jean quilts made by the WELCA quilters of St. Paul's. Each quilt is embroidered with the words, "You are wrapped in God's love – from your friends at St. Paul's Lutheran Church."

High school graduates, please come forward as your name is called.

Aleah Bienek

Jacob Hesby

Logan Melvie

Brooks Butt

Zach Johnson

Claire Oman

Gunnar Gunderson

Casey LaPlante

Mason Owens

Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare to begin new endeavors, remember your baptism and grounding in faith, and of your vocation to serve God in all your life's work and accomplishments.

Let us pray. Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially for the milestones that these students will have attained in their upcoming graduations. As they begin new phases of their lives, may they also know your love and experience your peace in all the experiences they encounter. Bless also the parents of these students who have raised their children and nourished them in the Christian faith. Give them strength in your continuing presence, and give them many joyful reunions with their sons and daughters who may be leaving home soon to begin new and varied ventures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Graduates, receive this blessing:

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve our God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SUNDAY BULLETIN

St. Paul's Lutheran, Crookston, MN

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

PRAYER LIST

As a family of faith, we lift up to God the following members and friends, our brothers and sisters in Christ:

For those who need healing:

Steve Flateland	Lisa Cormican	Andrea Powell
Jo Erdman	Rory Hamre	Julian Bertils
Brad Jenkins	Punky Johnson	Nancy Eia
Shelley Bizjak	Alfred Drew	

For those with birthdays and anniversaries:

Jody Trudeau	Kylee Meier	James Warcken
Brad Jenkins	David Haller	Kari Moe
Tim Caillier	Aaron Burke	Judy Luettjohann
Sheila Hanson	Lorna Solberg	Bob Cameron
Rachel Aune	Rachel Thoresen	
Lori & Dan Newquist	Karin & Dave Danforth	
Melissa & Matt Hesby		

For our missionaries:

Steve & Kelly Solheim
City of Joy Rwanda

For our servicemen:

Brandon Johnson D.J. Brace
Logan Melvie

Please keep them in your prayers this week.

If you have prayer requests, please contact the church office at 281-3638 or our prayer chain coordinator, Marian Bakken:(h) 218-281-1584, (c) 218-275-3143, marianbakken@gmail.com

MISSION: To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people

1214 University Avenue – Crookston, Minnesota 56716

Website: stpaulscrookstonmn.com facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn

Phone: 281-3638 Email: stpauls@midconetwork.com

Ministers..... St. Paul's members

President of the Board Cyndy Urness

Pastor Rev. Jeff Brown, OLF

CYF Director Gina Gunderson

Organist Mary Ann Knotek

Choir Director Kirsten Fagerlund

Webmaster Anna Peterson

Treasurer Betty Arvidson

Financial Secretary Kathie Barnes

Custodian Marilyn Flateland

Administrative Assistant. Lynne Mickelson

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!

Ushers..... Jacob Hesby, Casey LaPlante, Brooks Butt

Acolyte Joshua Hesby

Scripture reader Gunnar Gunderson, Mason Owens

Communion servers..... Claire Oman, Aleah Bienek, Zach Johnson

Special Music Logan Melvie

Altar Guild..... Marian Bakken

Offering Counters..... Lacia Hanson, Kathie Barnes

Livestream Anna Peterson

Senior Receptionserved by Junior class parents and students

Our Response to God's love....

Sunday, May 8, 2022 Attendance: 111

Our gifts towards Budget:

Sun. Env: \$3,943.85 Over & Above Benev: \$10

Loose offering: \$113 Gen Treas/No Benev: \$70

VBS: \$110

Other (non-budget) Receipts:

Improv. Fund: \$120 Youth Group fund: \$30

Memorials: \$110

Needed weekly towards 2022 budget: **\$4,017.22**

Total recd. towards Budget: \$4,246.85

Total (non-budget) Receipts: \$ 260.00

Total received: \$4,506.85

Thank you for your generous gifts to St. Paul's Lutheran Church!

SUNDAY MESSENGER

St. Paul's Lutheran, Crookston, MN

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

MAY 15-22, 2022

Summer Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 9 am – 5 pm.
Friday: office closed

Sunday, May 15

8:45 am Adult Bible Study
10:00 am Worship/communion/senior recognition
11:00 am Senior Reception
2:30 pm Funeral service for Jim Gustafson

Monday, May 16

8:30 am LWR Quilters
6:30 pm Board/Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 18

9:30 am Joanna Naomi circle
7:00 pm 8th grade confirmation

Thursday, May 19

10:30 am Pastors' text study

Friday, May 20

Pastor Jeff's day off
office closed
Wedding rehearsal

Saturday, May 21

3:00 pm Synod assembly (virtual)
Demarais/Delage wedding

Sunday, May 22

8:45 am Adult Bible Study
10:00 am WORSHIP
11:00 am Fellowship hour/Youth serve

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22-22.5 John 14:23-29

These are the readings for Sunday, May 22, 2022

GRADUATION RECEPTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to join these graduates in celebration at their graduation receptions:

Casey LaPlante Saturday, May 21 at 3 pm
Crookston Gun Club
26251 240th St. SW Crookston

Gunnar Gunderson Saturday, May 21 from 4-7 p.m.
1601 Evergreen Drive, Crookston

Brooks Butt Saturday, May 21 from 4-7 p.m.
22597 265th St. SW, Crookston

Aleah Bienek Saturday, May 21 at 4 p.m.
24321 265th St. SW, Crookston

Logan Melvie Saturday, May 28 from 12 - 5 p.m.
Nat'l Guard Armory – 1800 Univ. Ave.

Zach Johnson Saturday, May 28 from 2-4 p.m.
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF JIM GUSTAFSON

Jim Gustafson passed away Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at the age of 78. The funeral celebrating of Jim's life will be at 2:30 pm Sunday, May 15, at St. Paul's with visitation one hour prior to the service. We offer our sincere sympathy to Judy, Mark, Lisa, Brian, and all of Jim's family and friends.

CHILDREN & YOUTH EVENTS

Wed. May 18: 8th grade confirmation class

Wednesday, June 8: VBS – Pathways Bible Camp will lead our VBS this year at St. Paul's church building! More details to come.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you available to usher, serve communion, acolyte, or read Scripture? This is a simple but important way to serve your church family. Let us know if you are willing to help in these ways.

218-281-3638 or email the church office:
stpauls@midconetwork.com



Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 2022

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

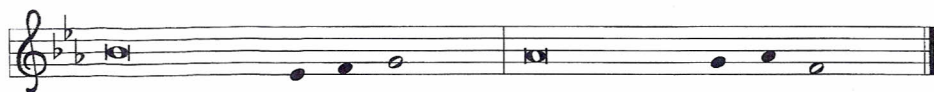
Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"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. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three

men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The 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. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷If 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?" ¹⁸When 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

Psalm 148; tone 10



Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD ¹from the heavens;
praise God ¹in the heights.
²Praise the LORD, ¹all you angels;
sing praise, all you ¹hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD, ¹sun and moon;
sing praise, all you ¹shining stars.
⁴Praise the LORD, heav- ¹en of heavens,
and you waters a- ¹bove the heavens.

continued

Psalm, continued

⁵Let them praise the name ¹of the LORD,
who commanded,
and they ¹were created,
⁶who made them stand fast
forev- ¹er and ever,
giving them a law
that shall not ¹pass away.
⁷Praise the LORD ¹from the earth,
you sea monsters ¹and all deeps;
⁸fire and hail, ¹snow and fog,
tempestuous wind,
do- ¹ing God's will;
⁹mountains ¹and all hills,
fruit trees ¹and all cedars;
¹⁰wild beasts ¹and all cattle,
creeping things and ¹flying birds;

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. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And 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; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their

¹¹sovereigns of the earth ¹and all peoples,
princes and all rulers ¹of the world;
¹²young ¹men and maidens,
old and ¹young together.
¹³Let them praise the name
¹of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted,
whose splendor
is over ¹earth and heaven.
¹⁴The LORD has raised up
strength for the people
and praise for all ¹faithful servants,
the children of Israel,
a people who are near the LORD.
¹Hallelujah!

eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will
be no more,
for the first things have passed away."
⁵And 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." ⁶Then 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."

Gospel

John 13:31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little 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.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

TODAY'S READINGS May 15, 2022

Volume 53, Number 3

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9.

TODAY'S READINGS (ISSN 1069-0166, USPS 009628) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Today's Readings, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$3.90 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day and psalm from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Psalm tone accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year C* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006). Please visit our website at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year C.

EASTER SEASON WORSHIP SERVICE

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: USED BY PERMISSION OF AUGSBURG FORTRESS UNDER LICENSE #SB168777

+ *Gathering* +

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION / EASTER PROCLAMATION

In the name of God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed!** *(repeat 3x)*

Christ is risen indeed. **Alleluia!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another...
Most merciful God, 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.**

(Pastor announces God's forgiveness)

HYMN: #848 Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

GREETING

May 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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-ty is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



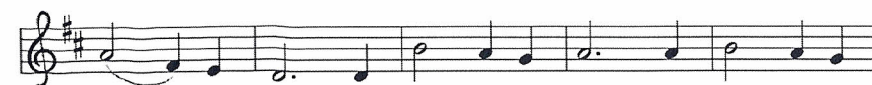
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Today's Readings

RECOGNITION OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

SPECIAL MUSIC: "All Good Gifts"

Logan Melvie

+ *Word of God* +

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Today's Readings

+ Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

Today's Readings

Acclamation:



Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia.

Before: The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

+ **Children's Time**

HYMN OF THE DAY: #631 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

NICENE CREED

With the whole Church, let us confess our Christian faith:

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

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those in need:

+ *for the Church universal*

+ *for creation*

+ *for the nation and world*

+ *for those in need*

+ *for the congregation*

+ *each petition closes with:* Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ *Holy Communion* +

OFFERING

+ **Special Music**

+ **Offering Song: #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart**

+ **Offering Prayer:** Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING / HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- + Thanksgiving to the Father
- + Words of Institution of the Son
- + Invocation of the Holy Spirit
- **concluding with the Lord's Prayer**

LAMB OF GOD

These are the gifts of God – for you, the people of God. Let us sing:



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Christians believe Holy Communion is “the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ for us Christians to eat and drink” (Small Catechism). All baptized Christians are welcome to commune, and each “table” at the altar rail will be dismissed as a group with a blessing.

- + **Distribution Hymns:** #491 Come, Let Us Eat
- #480 O Bread of Life from Heaven
- #494 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

+ *Sending* +

BLESSING

HYMN: #836 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is risen!
Alleluia! Thanks be to God!