

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Crookston, MN

April 12th, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

April 12th, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter

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WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/SHARING THE PEACE

OPENING WORDS/CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God has shown us the power of his works, parting the seas of our despair and sending redemption to his people. Trusting in a God who is gracious and full of compassion, let us confess the truth about our lives. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of majesty and splendor, you have commanded your covenant forever. Yet, too often, we forget your wonders. When the waters rise, we panic. When the doors are locked, we hide in fear. We demand proof of your presence while ignoring the miracles already surrounding us. Forgive our doubt. Breathe your Spirit upon us anew, that we might walk through our trials on dry ground and sing of your salvation. Amen.

My friends, hear the good news: God is our strength and our might, and has become our salvation! The Risen Christ stands among us and says, "Peace be with you." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed, and given life in his name. That is a promise of peace and joy; share that peace with one another.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: #367 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

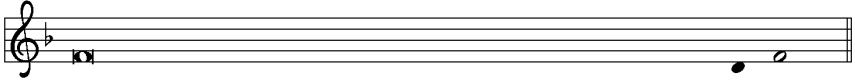
GREETING (p. 203)

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 (p. 138)



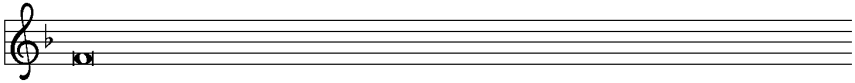
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



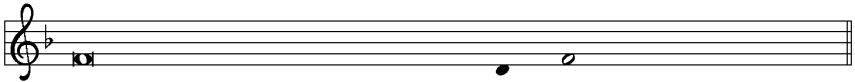
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



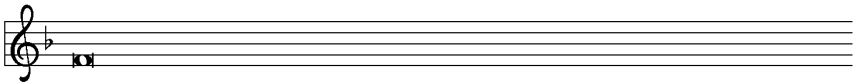
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



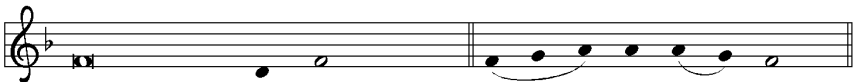
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



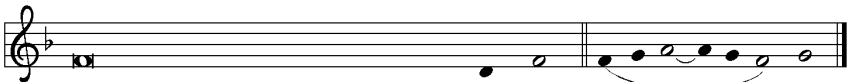
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (p. 140)



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of signs and wonders, you have revealed to us that Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior. Strengthen our faith, that we may have life in Christ's name. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

St. Paul's Sunday School

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

First Reading: Exodus 15:1-11, 19-21 (CEB)

Song of Moses and Miriam at the sea

¹ Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord:

I will sing to the Lord, for an overflowing victory!

Horse and rider he threw into the sea!

² The Lord is my strength and my power;

he has become my salvation.

This is my God, whom I will praise,

the God of my ancestors, whom I will acclaim.

³ The Lord is a warrior;

the Lord is his name.

⁴ Pharaoh's chariots and his army he hurled into the sea;

his elite captains were sunk in the Reed Sea.

⁵ The deep sea covered them;

they sank into the deep waters like a stone.

⁶ Your strong hand, Lord, is dominant in power;

your strong hand, Lord, shatters the enemy!

⁷ With your great surge you overthrow your opponents;

you send out your hot anger; it burns them up like straw.

⁸ With the breath of your nostrils the waters swelled up,

the floods surged up in a great wave;

the deep waters foamed in the depths of the sea.

⁹ The enemy said, "I'll pursue, I'll overtake,

I'll divide the spoils of war.

I'll be overfilled with them.

I'll draw my sword; my hand will destroy them."

¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered over them.

They sank like lead in the towering waters.

¹¹ Who is like you among the gods, Lord?

Who is like you, foremost in holiness,

worthy of highest praise, doing awesome deeds?

¹⁹ When Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and cavalry went into the sea, the Lord brought back the waters of the sea over them. But the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand. All the women followed her playing tambourines and dancing. ²¹ Miriam sang the refrain back to them:

Sing to the Lord, for an overflowing victory!

Horse and rider he threw into the sea!

Psalm: Psalm 111

¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are your works, O Lord,
pondered by all who delight in them.**

³ Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵ You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

⁶ **You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷ The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

⁸ **They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹ You sent redemption to your people and commanded your
covenant forever;

holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's**

praise endures forever.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9 (CEB)

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter

opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. ⁴You have a pure and enduring inheritance that cannot perish—an inheritance that is presently kept safe in heaven for you. ⁵Through his faithfulness, you are guarded by God's power so that you can receive the salvation he is ready to reveal in the last time.

⁶You now rejoice in this hope, even if it's necessary for you to be distressed for a short time by various trials. ⁷This is necessary so that your faith may be found genuine. (Your faith is more valuable than gold, which will be destroyed even though it is itself tested by fire.) Your genuine faith will result in praise, glory, and honor for you when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you've never seen him, you love him. Even though you don't see him now, you trust him and so rejoice with a glorious joy that is too much for words. ⁹You are receiving the goal of your faith: your salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

Gospel: John 20:19-31 (CEB)

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

¹⁹It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He

said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” ²² Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

²⁴ Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!” But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

²⁶ After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!” ²⁸ Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

³⁰ Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. ³¹ But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

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

SERMON: “Blessed Are Those Who Have Not Seen”

HYMN: #385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

The Baptism of Baker Robert Tiedemann Pg. 227

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

After the baptism: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission
we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and
bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes: Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

OFFERING

Sisters and brothers, the Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
giving sustenance to those in need and remembering his covenant

forever. Let us give thanks to the Lord with our whole hearts, offering our gifts generously so that others may know the power of God's saving works.

Offering Song: #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Prayer: Generous God, you are our strength and our might, and you have become our salvation. Your works are marked by majesty and splendor. Bless and multiply these offerings and pledges, that they may be used in faithfulness and justice to bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 145)

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.

BLESSING

Now the God who loves and resurrects us, who triumphs gloriously over death, breathe upon you the Holy Spirit and grant you new birth into a living hope. **Amen.**

HYMN: #380 Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!

CHARGE

Go forth giving thanks to the Lord with your whole heart! Trust and love the Christ you cannot see and let that bring you an indescribable joy, for that faith will bring the salvation of your souls. **Thanks be to God.**

This Sunday is Camp Sunday at St. Paul's! This morning, Kale Johnson, the Program Director of Pathways Outdoor Ministries and Camp Emmaus, led our Sunday School kids in songs, games, and a lesson. During worship, Kale also shared more about what's going on at camp this summer, helped our kids share a song, and shared a children's message. To learn more about Pathways and Camp Emmaus, visit <https://pathwaysbiblecamps.org/>.

SUNDAY BULLETIN

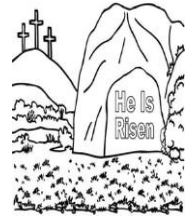
St. Paul's Lutheran, Crookston, MN

April 12, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.



PRAYER LIST

For those who need healing in body, mind, or spirit:

Julie Love	Eunice Sondrol	Judy Luettjohann
Darleen Jackson	Katie Bakken	Julian Bertils
Marlo Moren	Evie Gunderson	Nancy Eia
Mike Ophus	Loiland family	Trevin Monahan
Nash Erdman	Stuart Hanson	Mark Peterson
Lenny Devos	Glorryne Casmeay	Lucile Torkelson
Delores Sandager	Carol Chaffee	Kari L Trudeau
Leah Knotek Elleson		

For our missionaries: Steve & Kelly Solheim
City of Joy Rwanda

For our servicemen: Brandon Johnson D.J. Brace

Please keep them in your prayers this week.

If you have prayer requests, please contact the church office at 218 281-3638 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: 218-281-3638

Email: stpauls@midconetwork.com

Ministers

St. Paul's members

Council President

Anna Peterson

Pastor

Rev. Curt Peterson

Organist

Mary Ann Knotek

Webmaster

Anna Peterson

Treasurer

Betty Arvidson

Financial Secretary

Kathie Barnes

Custodian

Marilyn Flateland

Administrative Assistant

Tammy Frohlich

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING TODAY!

Ushers

Connie Haller and Bruce Arvidson

Scripture Reader

Connie Haller

Acolyte

Dominik Tronnes

Altar Guild

Judy Luettjohann

Offering Counters

Kathie Barnes and Dan Halland

Fellowship

CYF (Rolls!)

Livestream

Haddie Halland

APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES TEAM

Thanks a bunch, to April's Marvelous Worship Service Team, for signing up early. There are just a few slots left, if you would be so kind as to check out the bulletin board. **Thank you!** 😊

Carol Solheim

Bruce and Betty Arvidson

Marilyn Flateland

Gina Gunderson

Ron and Connie Haller

Pearl Johnson

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Isaiah 51:1-6

Psalm 34:1-10

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

Readings for April 19, 2026

3rd Sunday of Easter

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9am- 2pm

Please leave a message after 2 pm on the answering machine/drop something in the mailbox (north side of building)/call ahead. Pastor Curt is usually in the building but may be out on other church business. Worship via Facebook: [facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscrookstonmn)

Sunday, April 12

8:45 am
10:00 am
11:00 am

2nd Sunday of Easter

SS/Adult Bible Study
Worship
Fellowship
NEW MEMBER CLASS

Monday, April 13

8:30 am
5:30 pm
6:30 pm

LWR Quilting
Stewardship mtg.
Fellowship mtg.

Tuesday, April 14

7:00 am
6:30 pm
7:00 pm

Men's Coffee Fellowship
Property/Legal mtg.
AA

Wednesday, April 15

7:00 pm
7:00 pm

Confirmation
Choir Practice

Thursday, April 16

Friday, April 17

Church office closed Pastor's Day off

Sunday, April 19

8:45 am
10:00 am
11:00 am

6:30 pm

3rd Sunday of Easter

SS/Adult Bible Study
Worship and Communion
Volunteer Recognition Fellowship
NEW MEMBER CLASS
Women's Book Read

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

April 5th, 2026

Attendance: 139

Our gifts towards Budget:

Sunday Envelopes	\$2,127.53
Loose Offering	\$ 289.00
Over and Above Benevolence	\$ 10.00
General Treas/No Benevolence	\$ 435.00
Easter	\$1,325.00

Other (non-budget) Receipts:

Improvement Fund	\$ 565.50
Parsonage Siding Fund	\$ 163.73
Memorials	\$ 10.00

Needed weekly towards 2026 Budget:

Total received towards Budget	\$4,675.42
Total (non-budget) Receipts	\$4,186.53
Total Received	\$ 739.23
	\$4,925.76

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

Attendance: 41

Total Offering	\$ 450.00
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The most recent Treasurer's Report was approved at the last Church Council meeting. You can review it in the bulletin or web bulletin from March 29th, or contact Tammy in the office and she can provide a copy.

We have incredible news to share; we have reached our parsonage siding fundraising goal of **\$29,385.96!** Thank you so much!

SPECIAL MESSAGES

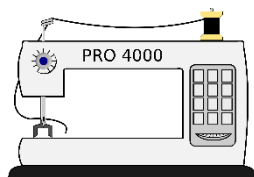
THANK YOU

To everyone who delivered meals to the homebound these past two weeks! A smiling face and a kind word goes a long way.

James 1:27 “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

QUILTER’S WISH LIST

As people are doing their spring cleaning, the quilters would appreciate any of the following items: Sheets, pillowcases, mattress pads, bed skirts, blankets, bedspreads, comforters, drapes, curtains, tablecloths, fabric, and yarn. Many of these items are fillers for quilts; the age/use of them is not significant. Thank you very much!



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **Wednesday, April 22nd** Common Grounds “Spring Thing” for 6-12th graders
- **Sunday, May 3rd** Confirmation Sunday
- **Sunday, May 10th** Last day of Sunday School
- **Sunday, May 17th** Quilt presentations to St. Paul’s graduating seniors

SPRING OFFICE HOURS

The church office hours will be slightly changing, effective next Monday, April 13th. The only change will be on Tuesday, with the hours of 12:00 – 5:00 pm. Thank you. ☺

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

New member classes start today after worship.

- **When:** April 12 & April 19 (after morning worship)
- **Where:** The Family Room (the room with a table, couches, and bookshelves by the East entrance).
- **New Member Welcome:** Sunday, April 26, during worship. To RSVP or ask questions, contact Pastor Curt or the office.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA... SAVE THE DATE

The **SWO... Synod Women's Organization** Convention is excited to announce our 2026 convention event, which will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church in Crookston, on **September 18th & 19th**. Save the date!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION WEEK - APRIL 19-25, 2026

“Shining a Light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve.”

Global Volunteer Month and National Volunteer Week celebrate the people who make change happen. Volunteers, you



are at the center of this movement, and all April we recognize the impact you create. Every act of service builds stronger communities and brings people together. When you act, you create connections, strengthen belonging, improve your own well-being, and move communities forward.

We are so incredibly grateful for the time and energy given to each and everyone who minister to St. Paul's church, in big and/or small ways! Please join us for a Volunteer Recognition gathering on Sunday, April 19th, following service.

PARSONAGE SIDING PROJECT: Goal Reached!

Over the past year, this congregation has shown immense dedication to this project. My family and I cannot say "thank you" enough for your overwhelming generosity, your continued prayers, and your unwavering support. Your kindness is a true blessing to us, and we are deeply, deeply grateful.

We look forward to seeing the fruits of your generosity when the new siding is installed later this month! Thank you again for making this possible and for caring so well for our family and the parsonage. A big thank you, also, to everyone who helped on the parsonage siding team: Bruce Arvidson, Connie Haller, Loren Sanderson, Kari Moe, Stacey Grunewald, Wayne Schenck, and Scott Kleven.

With hearts filled with gratitude,
Pastor Curt, Anna, and Zeke