

Jesus said to them, “Come, eat breakfast.”
This was now the third time Jesus appeared to
his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

(John 21:12,14)



Sunday, May 4, 2025

**The Third Sunday in Easter & Confirmation of
Mac Parker**

Service Theme

**BECAUSE HE LIVES
SINNERS BECOME SAINTS**

Peter denied Jesus. Saul persecuted Christians. What do these two men have in common? Jesus not only appeared to both men and forgave their sins, He also appointed them to be His apostles to the world. Jesus is risen to forgive your sins, regardless of how horrible they are. Receive His forgiveness in repentance and faith. Be His ambassador to your family, friends and neighbours: urging them to be reconciled to God.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

EASTER DIALOGUE

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

I will not die, but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Lord's right hand is majestic in power. The Lord's right hand has shattered the enemy.

Death has been swallowed up in victory.

The Lord will not abandon me to the grave. He has made known to me the path of life.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.

Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

461 He Is Arisen! Glorious Word

CW 461

He is a - ris - en! Glo - rious Word! Now rec - on - ciled is
God, my Lord; the gates of heav'n are o - pen.
My Je - sus did tri - um - phant die, and Sa - tan's ar - rows
bro - ken lie, de - stroyed hell's fierc - est weap - on.
O hear what cheer! Christ vic - to - rious, ris - ing glo - rious,
life is giv - ing. He was dead but now is liv - ing!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the humiliation of your Son, you lifted up this fallen world from the despair of death. By his resurrection to life, grant your faithful people gladness of heart and the hope of eternal joys; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Lesson Acts 9:1–22 (EHV)

The risen Christ appears to Saul, converting him from sinner to saint.

¹Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he might bring them to Jerusalem as prisoners.

³As he went on his way and was approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?”

He replied, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you need to do.”

⁷The men traveling with him stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone.

⁸They raised Saul up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes, he could not see anything. They took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he could not see, and he did not eat or drink.

¹⁰There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias!”

He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”

¹¹The Lord told him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. In fact, at this very moment he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he can regain his sight.”

¹³Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many people about this man and how much harm he did to your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵The Lord said to him, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. ¹⁶Indeed, I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷Ananias left and entered the house. Laying his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, whom you saw on your way here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

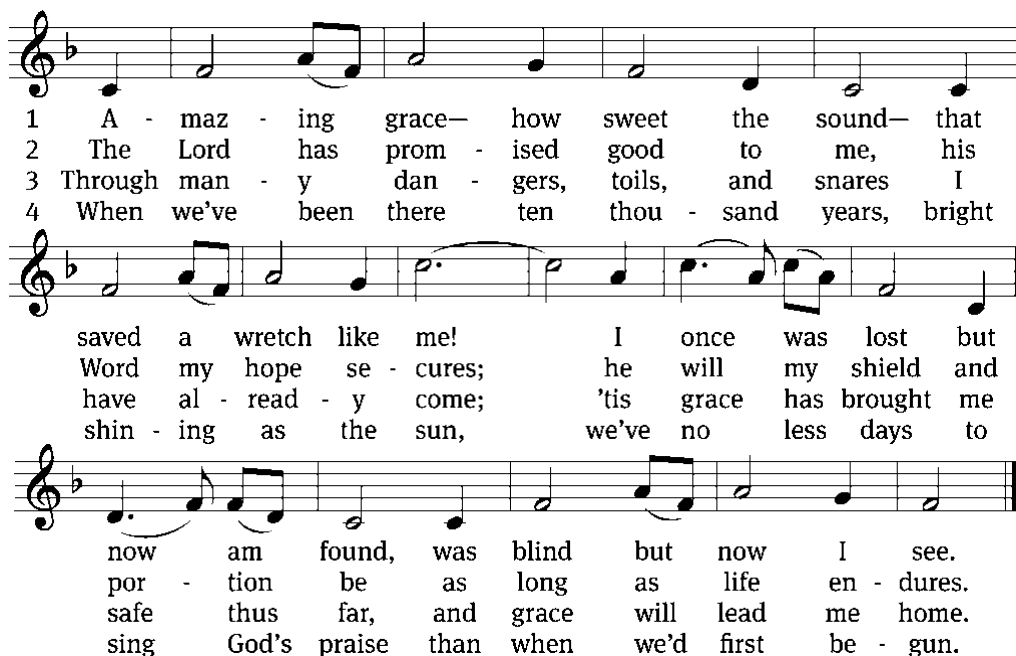
¹⁸Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. ¹⁹And after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. ²⁰Immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

²¹All who heard him were amazed and said, “Isn't this the one who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? Didn't he come here for this very purpose: to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²²But Saul continued to get stronger and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

576 Amazing Grace

CW 576



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright
 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to
 now am found, was blind but now I see.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–3): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman
 Text and tune: Public domain

Second Lesson Revelation 5:11–14 (EHV)

*The Apostle John sees the risen Christ honoured by all creation
 for being sacrificed for our salvation.*

¹¹And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders. Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. ¹²With a loud voice they were saying:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive
 power and riches and
 wisdom and strength and
 honor and glory and blessing.

¹³I also heard every creature that is in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:
To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever
and ever.

¹⁴The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders bowed down and worshipped.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia! (2 Timothy 1:10)



Gospel

John 21:1–17 (EHV)

Jesus appears to the disciples in Galilee and reinstates Peter as His Apostle.

¹After this, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how he showed himself: ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I’m going fishing.”

They replied, “We’ll go with you.”

They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Early in the morning, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know it was Jesus.

⁵Jesus called to them, “Boys, don’t you have any fish?”

“No!” they answered.

⁶He told them, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” So they cast the net out. Then they were not able to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

⁷The disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard, “It is the Lord!” he tied his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about one hundred yards. ⁹When they stepped out on land, they saw some bread and a charcoal fire with fish on it. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you just caught.”

¹¹So Simon Peter climbed aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153 of them. Yet even with so many, the net was not torn.

¹²Jesus said to them, “Come, eat breakfast.”

None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and also the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had eaten breakfast, Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I care about you.”

Jesus told him, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶A second time Jesus asked him, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?”

He said, “Yes, Lord, you know that I care about you.”

Jesus told him, “Be a shepherd for my sheep.”

¹⁷He asked him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you care about me?”

Peter was grieved because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you care about me?” He answered, “Lord, you know all things. You know that I care about you.”

“Feed my sheep,” Jesus said.

This is the Gospel of the LORD.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

578 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

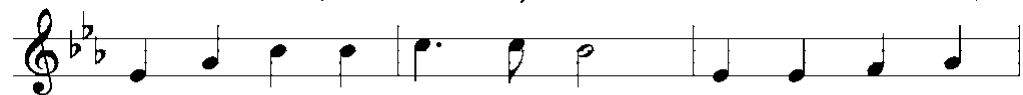
CW 578 sts. 1-4



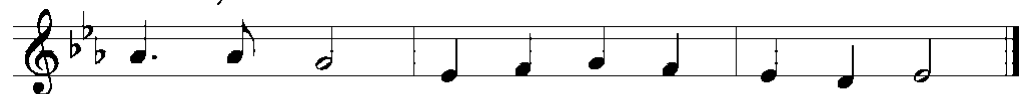
1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, high - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part com - fort to a
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in



blood for me, died that I might live on high,
heav'n's a - bove, deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; all my wants to him are known,



lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty, love that found me—
joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, faith and hope to
all my sor - rows are his own. Safe with him in



to the vine, I am his and he is mine!
won - drous thought— found me when I sought him not.
walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.
earth - ly strife, I a - wait the heav'n - ly life.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Text & Theme

John 21:1–17 ... Jesus Fishes Us Out...

- 1) From our sea of sorrow over sin,
- 2) For the privilege of saving others.

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION OF MAC PARKER

Pastor:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord Jesus said to his disciples: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Mac Parker, in obedience to the Lord's command, you are presenting yourself for baptism in name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You have been taught the precious truths of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. You know what God has given you by his grace and what he expects of you as his dear child. You will soon have the privilege of receiving the Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

You are here to make a public profession of your Christian faith. The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, said: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Therefore, lift up your hearts to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions.

Do you believe that you were born in sin and therefore eternally lost?

Mac: Yes, I believe.

P: Do you believe in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

M: Yes,

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

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

P: Do you believe that this Triune God planned and carried out your salvation?

M: Yes, I believe.

P: Do you believe that God grants you the forgiveness of sins in Holy Baptism?

M: Yes, I believe.

P: Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

M: I do.

P: Do you believe all the books of the Bible to be the inspired Word of God?

M: **I do.**

P: Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know it from Luther's Small Catechism, is faithful and true to the Word of God?

M: **I do.**

P: Do you intend to continue steadfast in this teaching and to endure all things, even death, rather than fall away from it?

M: **I do, and I ask God to help me.**

P: Do you intend faithfully to conform all your life to the teachings of God's Word, to be faithful in the use of the Word and sacrament, and in faith and action remain true to God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—as long as you live?

M: **I do, and I ask God to help me.**

P: Do you desire to be baptized?

M: **Yes, I do.**

(Continue at the Baptismal Font)

P: Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart (+) to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Mac Parker, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven.

Confirmation Verse

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

P: Let us pray:

Almighty God, in Baptism you made *Mac* a member of the body of your dear Son, Jesus Christ. You washed *him* by his blood, buried *him* with Jesus in his death, and gave *him* a new life in his resurrection. Renew *him* by the Holy Spirit, which you have poured out on *him* generously through Jesus Christ our Savior. Let *him* live out *his* life as an heir of eternal life. Lead *him* to serve your Church in holiness and righteousness all *his* days. Keep *him* in fellowship with all who wait for the return of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation:
Amen.

P: Your church now invites you to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's body and blood. Accept this invitation with deep reverence and holy joy. Regard your communing at the Lord's Table as a precious privilege given you by God through his Church; receive this Sacrament thankfully and often. The almighty and most merciful God—Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit—bless and keep you.

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution
(*Please stand*)

M: My fellow disciples, in the Lord's Supper, Jesus is coming to us in a very special way: as we receive the bread and the wine of communion, Jesus is present to give us his actual body and blood, and to pronounce forgiveness to each one of us personally. Because of the Lord's presence and his forgiveness in communion, the Apostle Paul wrote, "*A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.*" (1 Corinthians 11:28) Therefore, before the Lord comes to meet with us, let us honestly ask ourselves before God who knows our hearts:

- 1) Do you confess that you have sinned against God and deserve his anger and punishment? If so, then answer, "I do confess!"

C: I do confess!

M: It is good for you to confess because God's word says, "*When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.*" (Psalm 32:3)

- 2) Are you sorry for the sins you have committed against God by things you have done, said and thought, and by the things you have failed to do? If so, then answer, "I do repent!"

C: I do repent!

M: It is right for you to repent because God's Word says, "*If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not within us.*" (1 John 1:8)

- 3) Do you now believe that God will forgive you and save you for the sake of Jesus' perfect life and redeeming death? If so, then answer, "I do believe!"

C: I do believe!

M: It is right for you to believe because Jesus himself says, *“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* (John 3:16)

4) Do you now promise by the power of the Holy Spirit to make every effort to turn away from sin and live for your Lord? If so, then answer, “I do so promise!”

C: I do so promise!

M: It is right for you to promise because God’s Word says, *“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.”* (Matthew 3:8)

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

As repentant and forgiven sinners, we now come to meet with our Lord.



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
 O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - men.

Distribution

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
 to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
 pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
 Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Thanksgiving

M: We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Prayer for the Easter Season

God of all grace, we thank you for the gift of eternal life in your Son. By the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and by the faithful testimony of the apostles, you have assured us that our faith stands on a sure and solid foundation.

Though we do not see Jesus with our physical eyes, help us see him with the eyes of faith. Through your Holy Spirit, breathe on your Church that it may faithfully proclaim the gospel of our risen Savior with courage and diligence in all lands and to all people. Grant that we also may be illumined by the heavenly light of your Word, and so keep us in the one and only true faith.

Preserve us from all assaults on our souls, deliver us from doubt and despair, and preserve us from worldly wisdom and false teaching.

Forgive the sins of your people. Strengthen the doubting and faithless. Bring back the forgetful and wayward, and comfort the anxious and the distressed.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

As we go from this holy place today, grant peace and rest to us all. We pray this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

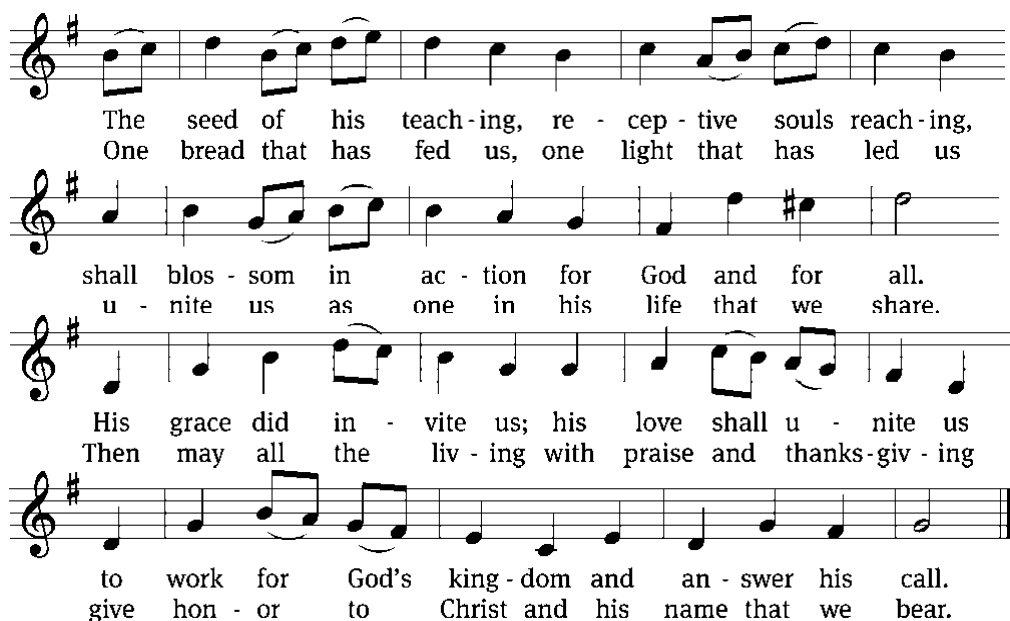
M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

C: Amen.

932 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

CW 932

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,
the peo - ple of God from his dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.
The sup - per is end - ed; O be now ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,
the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing his chil - dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of his teach-ing, re - cep - tive souls reach-ing,
 One bread that has fed us, one light that has led us
 shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
 u - nite us as one in his life that we share.
 His grace did in - vite us; his love shall u - nite us
 Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks-giv - ing
 to work for God's king - dom and an - swer his call.
 give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Tune: Welsh Text: © 1964 World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc.
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Announcements

Church Cleaners

May 11 – Timothy // May 18 – Mark

Youth Pizza and Video Games @ St. Paul's!

Fri May 16, 2025

Calling all Ottawa Valley youth catechism age and up! We will be gathering at St. Paul in downtown for a night of Pizza and Video Games! We will start with a short object lesson devotion while eating pizza! After that, we will have a few game systems set up to enjoy together. We plan to begin at 6:30 P.M. on Friday May 16th and will end around 8:30! For more info, please email jonathan.kock94@gmail.com.

Use this link to sign up: <https://signup.com/go/KfDagkb>

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (4) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class
10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
11:30 am First Fellowship
12:00 pm Long Range Planning Meeting
3:00 pm Communion Service in Poltimore

Pastor's Conference in Rochester from May 5 - 7

Fr (9) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship

Sa (10) 11:00 am Communicating Christ (Youth)

Su (11) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Coffee Hour

Tu (13) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

We (14) 11:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)

Fr (16) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Romans 9-16)
6:30 pm Youth Game Night @ St. Paul's

Sa (17) 11:00 am Communicating Christ (Youth)

Su (18) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class
10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
11:30 am Coffee Hour
3:00 pm Communion Service in Poltimore



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