

Our
Father...

THE 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 22, 2022

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040
Pastor John Moeller

www.stpauloaklawn.org
Director of Music Ruth Sievers

As We Gather

The troubles of the world confront us every day—troubles in the news, troubles in our families, troubles within ourselves, troubles at work or at school. Jesus knows the world. So He said to His disciples, “In the world you will have tribulation” (John 16:33). Yet the final word of this Easter season is not trouble. It is hope through the resurrection of Jesus in defeat of all of this world’s troubles. “Take heart; I have overcome the world,” Jesus said. Being a follower of Jesus never protects us from experiencing the world’s troubles, but it does give us hope. It fills us with courage and it strengthens our hearts. We catch a glimpse of our future world in Christ in Revelation, where the city of God shines with the light of the resurrection—a city alight with God and the Lamb, a city with no night. Take heart! Jesus has overcome the world!

Prelude

Opening Hymn

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

#816

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator’s praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! | Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |
| | △ 3 | All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! |
| 2 | Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore | |

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P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P Let the people praise You, O God!

C Let all the people praise You!

P Jesus said, “In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” Let the people praise You, O God!

C Let all the people praise You!

Confession and Absolution

We pause to remember and confess our sins before Almighty God

P God of love, hear us as we confess our sin to You.

P We confess:

C Captive to sin, we have sinned against You, mighty God, in thought, word, and deed.

- P** We have been anxious and impatient.
- C** **We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**
- P** We have lived in ways that do not give witness to Your mercy in Jesus.
- C** **We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**
- P** We have let ourselves be drawn to other gods.
- C** **Bring us to repentance, Lord. Forgive our sins, those of which we are aware and those we do without thinking. Have mercy on us. Seek us, for You alone can find us and restore us.**
- P** Jesus said, "Take heart; I have overcome the world." Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

✝ WORD ✝

Introit

Psalm 55:4, 16–18; antiphon: v. 22

- P** Cast your burden on the LORD, and He will sustain you;
- C** **He will never permit the righteous to be moved.**
- P** My heart is in anguish within me;
- C** **the terrors of death have fallen upon me.**
- P** But I call to God,
- C** **and the LORD will save me.**
- P** Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan,
- C** **and He hears my voice.**
- P** He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage,
- C** **for many are arrayed against me.**
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- C** **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- Cast your burden on the LORD, and He will sustain you;**
He will never permit the righteous to be moved.

Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
 Heavenly Father, Your Holy Spirit has worked faith in our hearts.
- C** **Grant that we may pray confidently, trusting that because of Your Son's sacrificial death and glorious resurrection, You graciously hear our every prayer;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

First Reading

✠ Paul and Luke Called to Macedonia ✠

Acts 16:9-15

⁹ A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. ¹¹So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. ¹³And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.**C** Thanks be to God.**Epistle**

✠ The New Jerusalem ✠

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

⁹Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— ¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ²¹And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass. ²²And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.**C** Thanks be to God.**Hymn of Praise**

"Seek Ye First"

Hymn #712

1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto
you!
Allelu, alleluia!

2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find,

Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,
Allelu, alleluia!

3 Man does not live by bread alone,
But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,
Allelu, alleluia!

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Stand

Holy Gospel

✠ Take Heart; I Have Overcome the World ✠

John 16:23-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²³In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. ²⁵"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father." ²⁹His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." ³¹Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

✠ Confession of Faith ✠

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came
down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the
virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius
Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according
to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge
both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and
apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

#770

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev’rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
- 3 Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at www.stpauloaklawn.org. For information about regular electronic giving, please contact the church office.*

Offertory Meditation

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

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 Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

✠ DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT ✠

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

#637

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you
outpoured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and Himself the priest. | With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry
whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul. |
| 2 He who His saints in this world rules and
shields,
To all believers life eternal yields; | 3 Come forward then with faithful hearts
sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks
endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now. |

Text: Public domain

“Just As I Am, without One Plea”

#570

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. | 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. |
| 2 Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. | 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. |
| 3 Just as I am, though tossed about
With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. | 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. |

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Communion Blessing

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Closing Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.
- C** Give us confidence as we pray each day, knowing that You hear our every petition and that Your answers are better than our requests;
- P** through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Almighty Father, Bless the Word”

#923

1 Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through Your grace we now have
heard.

Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
May all at last in heav’n appear.

Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

△3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

2 We praise You for the means of grace
As homeward now our steps we trace.

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Postlude



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

Guest Pianist: Mary Bliss

Lector: David Witkosky

Altar Care: Cynthia Rose

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Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family:

Lois Kaminske	Cathy Gleason
Dawn McNicholas	Janet Varnagis
Janice Przybycien	Kevin Hickey
Mary Ann Colander	Art Hornburg
Melva Smith	Laverne Abraham
Carol Small	Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski	Beverly Sellers
Lenore Curran	Betty Beegle
Delphine Cherry	Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank	Deb Skopec
Herta Iversen	Loretta Frank
The Giacobbe Children	Marge Rochlitz
Ron Hickey	Julie & Larry Gurga
Ingrid Lesko	Katherine Hice
Gloria Meyer	Jan Briede
Delores Stegemann	Connie Braun
Kurt Seehofer	The Polezoes Family
Lincoln & Parker Alex	Patricia Murdoch
Gloria Crook	Betty Kruckow
Warren Miller	Mark Landstrom
Denise Murray	Roy Hodgeman

We give thanks:

With Pastor Dan and Jan Gensch on the birth of two grandsons: William Erich was born May 1st to Andrew and Anna, and Frederich Benjamin was born on May 16th to Sarah and Ben.

Announcements & Notes:

- **The next Voters Meeting** is Tuesday, May 24th at 7pm in the church.
- There will be an **Ascension Day Worship Service** on Thursday, May 26th at 4:30 p.m. at St. Peter Lutheran Church at 86th and Kedvale in Chicago. All are invited!
- Please let the church office know when your need for our congregational prayers is over (708) 423-1040.

Please pray for these friends and family of our members:

Andrew Mrochen	Vern Howe
Eugene Marcinkowski	Roberta & Carlos Owens
Denise DeLaurentis	Dorothy Kroll
Eric Kessler	Barb & Emily Feehan
Bob Hessert	Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta	Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow	Janet Trierweiler
Alan Hecke	Kim Lamberth
Matt Favero	Sandra Wilson
Michelle Mitchell	Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi	Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher	The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross	Brenda Gurgel
Gloria Folsom	Autumn Kessler
Shirley Fairchild	Simeon Hoppe
Ron Lunt	Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath	Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres	Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo	Henry Bonder
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.	Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter	Fred Raddatz
Allyson Seehofer	Selma Carmichael
Bernadette & Rich Trusk	Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson	Guillermo Ramirez
Paul Noffke	Sue Sortino
Pam Brown	Lisa Sanders
Shawn Harland	Ann Herold
Barb Potter	Wayne Volk
Charley Heitz	Sharon Bryant
Doris Potts	Brad Benfield
Doreen Holford	Janice Hernandez
Judy Collins	Phyllis Hicks
Maryann Krieg (Wilke)	Katherine Zeleny
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.	Monica Iversen
Cathy Becker	Ken Matz
Jean & Al Zirbel	Heather & Josh Turro
Mary Ann Rafidi	Pastor Mark Willig
Joe Thomas	Patrick Pasqua Sr.
Debbie Guarascio	Sophia Salus
Justin & Ashley Fasel	Frank Cogliase
Nora Maculitis	Gene Wawrzynikowski
Kimberly Rooney	Rhonda Scott
Robert Gonzalez	Theresa Kostecky
Pam Kirk	Vicki Warren
Jenny Bond	Paul Moeller