



Christians Are God's Special People

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 7, 2023**

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Grant Park, IL

Order of Service: Service Setting One (CW page 154)

Prayer upon entering church: Holy Father, Your Son promised to give all things that we ask in His name. Grant us to pray continually to You, through Your Son, by Your Spirit, that the gifts of the Gospel may bear fruit and multiply among us, and that we would live a life of love for the blessing of our neighbor. Amen.

Opening hymn: Seek Where You May to Find a Way (CW 698)

Invocation and Confession

The Word

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Acts 4:8-12

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders of Israel, if we are being questioned today for a kind act that was done for the lame man, as to how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead! By him this man stands before you healed. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”

Psalm: This is the Day the LORD Has Made (Psalm 118)

Refrain



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Tone



The Lord is my strength and / my defense;
he has become my sal- / vation.
The Lord's right hand is / lifted high;
the Lord's right hand has done / mighty things!
I will not / die but live,
and will proclaim what the /Lord has done. *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you / answered me;
you have become my sal- / vation.
The stone the builders re- / jected
has become the / cornerstone;
the Lord has / done this,
and it is marvelous / in our eyes.
**Glory be to the Father and/ to the Son
and to the Holy/ Spirit,
as it was in the be-/ ginning,
is now, and will be forever./ Amen.***Refrain*

Text: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Marty Haugen

Text: © 1969 ICEL (refrain). Used by permission: One License no. 401680

Tune: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: One License no. 401680

Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: One License no. 401680

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-10

As you come to him, the Living Stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious, you also, like living stones, are being built as a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, in order to bring spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it says in Scripture: See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who believes in him will certainly not be put to shame.

Therefore, for you who believe, this is an honor. But for those who do not believe: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and, a stone over which they stumble and a rock over which they fall. Because they continue to disobey the word, they stumble over it. And that is the consequence appointed for them.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, the people who are God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. At one time you were not a people, but now you are the people of God. At one time you were not shown mercy, but now you have been shown mercy.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation *John 14:6*



Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



I am the way and the truth and the life.



No one comes to the Father ex - cept through me.

Refrain

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: One License no. 401680

Gospel: John 14:1-11

“Do not let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to be with me, so that you may also be where I am. You know where I am going, and you know the way.”

“Lord, we don’t know where you are going,” Thomas replied, “so how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me. If you know me, you would also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” “Lord,” said Philip, “show us the Father, and that is enough for us.”

“Have I been with you so long,” Jesus answered, “and you still do not know me, Philip? The one who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I am telling you I am not speaking on my own, but the Father who remains in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me. Or else believe because of the works themselves.

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: Welcome, Happy Morning (CW 469)

Sermon: Christians Are God’s Special People (1 Peter 2:4-10)

Nicene Creed (CW 162)

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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Prayer of the Church

Offering: We give our gifts to the Lord and sing “Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love” (CW 496 vs. 1) in response to our offerings.

Lord’s Supper (CW page 165)

Communion Hymn: Christ Is Our Cornerstone (CW 914)

Communion Hymn: Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake (CW 702)

Prayer and Blessing (CW page 170)

Closing hymn: CW Setting Two Practice

Announcements

Welcome in Jesus’ name to any and all guests and visitors here with us today. It is a joy to be able to worship with you. Help us to remember your visit by signing our guest book. Ask an usher if you need help finding the book. If you would like more information about our church please speak with pastor after church. If you need a hearing device, please speak to a greeter. Please come again!

Weekly Preview next week we'll celebrate the Sixth Sunday of Easter. Our lessons will be from Acts 17:22-31, 1 Peter 3:13-22 and John 14:15-21. Our sermon will be based on 1 Peter 3:13-22 with the theme, "Are You Prepared?"

Hospitalized/Homebound members/members to keep in your prayers: Carol Luft, Bob Jacobs, and Laura Biesterfeld (teacher at ILS elementary school).

WELS' Night Chicago will take place on August 11. See the bulletin board for info.

Training Camp is a Lutheran summer youth camp for kids entering grades 3 - 9 in the fall. It is an outdoor, overnight, one-week camp. This year, Training Camp will be July 16th-21st at YMCA Camp Duncan in Ingleside, IL. Registration is still open and can be accessed here: <https://smniles.org/summer-camp/#register>

ILS Golf Outing is Saturday, June 3. The sign up is located in the narthex.

Mother's Day will be featuring a bake sale to help Ashley Gunderson raise funds to travel to Virginia and help with a VBS there.

Dishwasher We have a slightly used dishwasher available at church for a nominal donation.

April financial report Current: \$8,356 Missions: \$1,295, Easter: \$1,555, ILHS: \$27, WLCFS: \$30, Total: \$11,263

Communion Service In the Lord's Supper, our Savior offers unworthy sinners a personal pledge of forgiveness of sins through his body and blood. As he draws repentant sinners to himself, he also draws them into a special bond of fellowship with one another. In the WELS, we demonstrate this special fellowship bond in what is called "close communion." Thus, if you have never communed with us before, we ask that you first speak with our pastor. He will share with you the steps toward establishing communion fellowship. Thank you for respecting our practice.

This week at St. Paul

Today: Worship with communion 9am
Sunday School after worship
Bible Class after worship
Sunday: Worship 9am
Bible Class after worship
Sunday School after worship

Organist: Thank you to Doreen Romadka
Last Week's Attendance: Sunday Worship 49

St. Paul Evangelical (Gospel Centered) Lutheran Church
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)
9954 N16000 E Rd. Grant Park, IL 60940

Pastor Paul Micheel, Pastor
Phone: 815-465-6906 (church)
Email: pastor@stpaulgrantpark.net
Web Site: <http://www.stpaulgrantpark.net>