

4/28/2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter "He has Risen!"

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH-LCMS

2045 LYNN RD | SANFORD, MI 48657

Pastor Christopher P. Vossler Organist: Sara Glynn-Dishaw

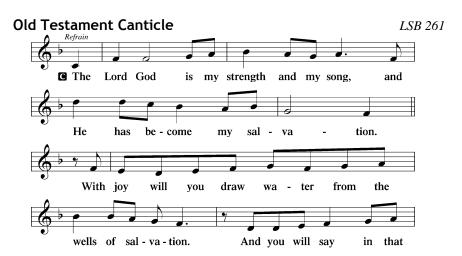


Reception of New Members by Transfer

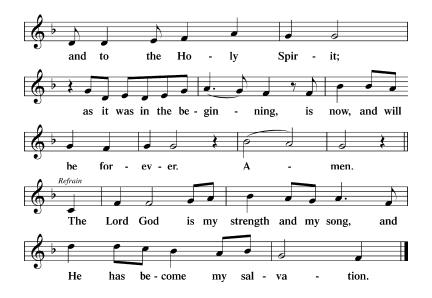
Today we welcome the Finney Family ©

Opening Versicles

- This is the day which the Lord has made;
- **C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- **L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- **L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere:
- I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- **C** Teach me Your paths.
- **L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- **C** Your Word is truth.
- **L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.







Sit

Readings From Holy Scripture

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

L A reading from Acts, the eighth chapter.

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." ³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

³⁴And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" ³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 John 4: 1-11

¹Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ²By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone

who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please Stand to Honor The Holy Gospel

- The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8

¹[Jesus said:] "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ²Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Responsory

- **L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- **C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Apostles' Creed

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence 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.

Children's Message



Goal: That the hearers would recognize God's Word at work in the world.

I. Introduction

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II. Context

- Why did the early Christians appoint the deacons?
- What event caused the believers to spread out from Jerusalem?

III. Text

- How did Philip come to be where he was at that time?
- By what means did the Holy Spirit reveal the truth to the eunuch?

IV. Application

- How does God's Word work?
- How can God's Word work through you?

V. Conclusion

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Offering

Offerings given to St Paul Lutheran Church go to the furtherance of God's Mission, here and abroad. If you wish to designate offering for a specific cause, please write in the memo line of your check or envelope: "Parking Lot" (for refinishing the parking lot), "Flowers" (for Altar flowers) or "Youth/NYG" (for the 2025 youth trip to the LCMS National Youth Gathering). All other offerings will go into the general fund. If you wish to give a memorial offering, please write "Memorial," along with your loved one's name.

Stand

Prayer

- **L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- E For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- E For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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.

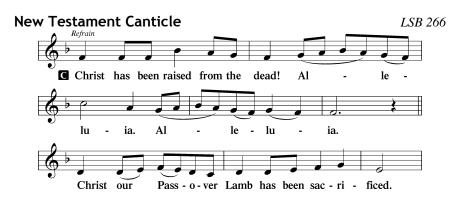
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Collect for the Word

- E Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Morning Prayer

Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen





Blessing

- **L** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.
- The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C Amen.



- 1 All who be-lieve and are bap-tized Shall see the Lord's sal va tion;
- 2 With one ac-cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho ly Spir it.



Bap-tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion. Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re-demp-tion they shall stand A - mong the glo-rious, Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



Dismissal for Sunday School
Dismissal for Youth Bible Study

Dismissial for Fouri Biele Stady

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Postlude

E-Mail: stpaullutheran@tds.net | www.stpaulsanford.org

WELCOME:

We join in welcoming our visitor's this morning. If you would please be sure to sign the guest book (Elders can direct you to the location), Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL

SUNDAY: Sunday Worship Service 9:30am/Fellowship 10:30am/Bible Study 11am

MONDAY:

TUESDAY: 5pm Confirmation Class/Lifelight 7pm

WEDNESDAY: Ladies Aid 9am/10am Public

Relations/Lifelight 1pm/Choir 7pm

THURSDAY: Pastor Hoogerhyde Bible Study

2:30pm/Elders' Meeting 6pm

• FRIDAY:

SATURDAY: Band Rehearsal 4pm/6pm Potluck for Confirmands/7pm Confirmation Questioning

SUNDAY: Confirmation Sunday Worship Service with Communion 9:30am/Confirmation Reception Fellowship 10:30am/Bible Study 11am

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD 4/21						
OFFERINGS	Memorials	Mom	TOTAL	ATTENDANCE		
Env / Plate						
\$3389/364	40	21	\$3814	79		

Today we welcome the Finney Family in transfer from the west side of the state.☺

Confirmation will take place next Sunday, May 5, with Confirmation Questioning next

Saturday, May 4 at 7 PM. Everyone in the congregation is invited to come for the Confirmation Questioning to hear the students share what they have learned and what they believe. We will have a potluck before the Questioning, starting at 6:00.

Please be sure to update any changes to your Phone #, address, email with the church office. Drop a note in the plate, send and email, leave a message, etc. We would like to keep the directory as current as possible. Thank you ©

Fellowship-Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship this morning for refreshments and conversation! Refreshments are provided each Sunday by members of the congregation. If you would like to provide snacks for fellowship, please sign up on the clipboard by the kitchen.

A BeauTEAful Attitude: May 10th

Attitude is everything! Raeann Kusch, author of "The Personal Touch – Encouraging Others through Hospitality" will share uplifting stories to encourage us each to have BeauTEAful attitudes.

Please RSVP by May 3, 2024 to Christy Martin ckm57@me.com or 817-757-9577
There is also be a Sign up sheet on the fellowship board

Coming in May: Stewardship Month: Financial Peace University

Have you ever asked yourself how you can become a better steward of all the resources and abilities that God has given you? If so, you're not alone. In May, we will look at all aspects of our lives as stewards of God's gifts to us. All of our Bible Studies, all of our worship services, will highlight specific areas of Stewardship and how our role as Steward (or "manager") impacts our whole Christian life. Starting with Confirmation Sunday, when we usher five newly-confirmed members into the next step of the Christian life.

Building off of Stewardship Month, join us this summer for **Financial Peace University**. If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end—starting today. Join our FPU class starting on **Tuesday**, **June 4**, **2024**, and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. Sign up on the bulletin board downstairs!

Ladies Aid Bake Sale for Sanford Rising

Ladies Aid has been asked to sponsor a bake sale for Sanford Rising on May 18, 2024. This will be a great outreach for St Paul.

Proceeds from the sale of goods will be donated to Sanford Rising Festival.

We are asking for volunteers to donate baked goods. We need a dozens of items. All baked goods need to be packaged and dropped off at Church May 17, 2024 by noon. They will be picked up on the 17th by Sanford Rising admin JoEllen Billingsley and she will man the bake sale on the 18th.

We are setting the prices and our Public Relations Committee will provide stickers with St Paul service and VBS information to be included with each purchase.

Following is a list of donation suggestions:

Requesting 5-6 sets of 4 dozen large (4-5") cookies, enclosed in individual zipper or slide baggies Requesting 5-6 sets of 4 dozen small (2-3") cookies, packaged 2 to a bag Requesting 6-8 dozen brownies (cut into 4" squares)

in individual zipper or slide baggies

Requesting 10 dozen cupcakes, any flavor, enclosed in individual cupcake boxes found at Michaels or Amazon

Requesting 10 dozen muffins, any flavor, enclosed in individual zipper or slide baggies
Requesting 20 loaves of homemade bread, using frozen dough is acceptable, individually bagged
Requesting 10 dozen large cinnamon rolls, in 9x13 foil pans to be sold individually or in small, covered foil pans including 4 rolls in each pan.

These are just suggestions. Quantities are random and not set in stone. We will happily work with what we receive. We would like RSVP's by May 13th so we have an idea of what and how much to expect.

We and Sanford Rising Thank you for your generosity
RSVP to Christy Martin ckm57@me.com 817-757-9577 or Sign up sheet on board



For more information about youth group, Sunday School, youth bible study and events, please use the QR code to get to the form.



Held every 3 years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. We encourage our Youth to share in the once in this lifetime opportunity to learn more about God's love attending "Endure" 2025. To be held July 19-23. 2025 in New Orleans

NYG Returnables Drive: We have a collection at the fellowship hall entrance for returnable containers that will go toward helping to fund the youth trip to National Youth gathering.

<u>Prayer Request</u>: If you or someone you know are in need of prayers please call or email Edna Rottiers at 989-687-9687 / hughrottiers@gmail.com. Those with additional prayer request please complete a prayer slip and give to one of our Elders before the service or to one of the Ushers

during the offering. Your prayers are important and our Lord does promise to answer

Mission of the Month: April, we are receiving offerings for the Lutheran Hour Ministries. This global media resource proclaims the Gospel to more than 136 million people worldwide each week, often bringing Christ to places where no other Christian organizations are present.

Altar Guild representatives for May will be Kathy Engblade 989.631.6447 and Sandy Hoogerhyde and Jeffrey Finney 231. 282.0847

Flowers on the altar for our worship service this morning are provided by **Lisa Hulbert** in celebration of Anasia Damm's college graduation.

Anasia is Lisa and Mike's future daughter-in-law. Congratulations, Anasia!! ©

Would you like to beautify the altar with flowers for a worship service? The 2024 Altar Flower Sign-up is on the bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall. Sign up now and pay

for your flowers in the offering plate. After the service, you can enjoy your flowers at home for as long as they last. Just remember to bring back the vase to reuse!

Blacktop Project-We are accepting donations to the Blacktop project as we work toward future upgrades.

Pastoral Care: Please contact the Pastor @ cell 973-303-8252, office 989-687-2209, or email stpaulrev@tds.net. The Church Office (989-687-2824) / cell (989 859-9300) email stpaullutheran@tds.net, or Deacon Don Barnard (989-751-7726) email: stpauldeacon@tds.net or esocidnator01@gmail.com if you or anyone you know are in need of a visit from the Pastor or Deacon whether it's an illness, hospitalization, nursing home or shut-in. It is important to us that we receive these communications to plan a call or visitation. May God's blessings be upon you today and

every day!



Camp Ark
Encounters Vacation Bible
School; June
17th through



June 21st. Use this QR code to go to online registration or paper copies are available on the bulletin board ©



Wanted: volunteers to help with Youth Activities

Vacation Bible School is coming up on June 17th - 21st, and we

are very excited for this opportunity to bless the youth of our congregation and community! Much of the ground work has already been accomplished, but there is more to be done over the coming months. The Youth Ministry Board is looking for volunteers to help with youth activities (including joining the Youth Ministry Board). If you are willing to serve in this valuable role, please talk to Andrea McDonald or Pastor Vossler.



Online giving is now available! Follow this QR code to our giving page or click on the donate button on our website.

Please be sure to lock up and turn **off** the lights when leaving Church.

Sanford Food Pantry:

Current needs for the food pantry: **Cake mixes and Canned Frosting.** There are refillable canvas bags
from the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry available on the
food pantry table in the fellowship hall. The bags have a suggested
list of items and instructions. You may take these bags home and
place the purchased items in the bag and return it to the church.
The bags will be delivered to the Sanford Food Pantry the last
week of the month. The empty bags will be returned to the church
to be used again. Thank you for all of the items and monetary
donations. Please remember that the food pantry does not
accept expired or dietary food

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SERVING	This Week 4/28	Next Week 5/5
Flowers:	Lisa Hulbert	Carolyn Sutton &
		Larry Terbush
Music:	Sara Glynn-Dishaw	Chris Erkkila
Proclaimer:	Pastor Christopher	Pastor Christopher
	Vossler	Vossler
Fellowship		
Host	Myrna & Christy	Confirmation Sunday
Ushers	Betty Sczepanski &	Betty Sczepanski &
	Edna Rottiers	Edna Rottiers
Acolytes	Natalie & Jace	*
Greeters	Jan & Wade O'Dell	Don & Nancy
		Retzloff

#Up Coming Events#

May 4th Confirmand Questioning: Potluck @ 6pm and questioning @ 7pm May 5th Confirmation Sunday

Ladies' Aid Tea-May 10th, please RSVP to Christy by May 3rd



Spring Clean up work bee-May 18th 9am-2pm-Please sign up on bulletin board

Read the Bible in a Year!

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for traini

ng in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

For Christians – and especially for Lutherans – nothing is more important that God's Word. God speaks to us

through His Word, and we do well to listen to what He has to say to us. That is why regular devotions and prayer and Scripture reading are so important for our spiritual life.

It's always a good time to start a plan to read the Bible! And in fact, you can read through the entire Bible in a year, with only 15-20 minutes per day. Are you worried that the Bible might be too much for you to read in a single year? There are resources that can help. One option that is available is on your smartphone: Download the YouVersion Bible App and look up the "Reformation Reading Plan," which was developed by the Michigan District to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

If you don't have a smartphone, you can follow this reading plan in the bulletin every week, along with suggested readings from Luther's Small Catechism. Note

that whatever day you start the reading plan in the app will be "Day 1," so you may find yourself on a different day than what is in the bulletin.

Daily Readings:

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Days 183-189	Reading	Catechism
Monday	Matthew 1, 2 Samuel 21, 22, 23	The Second Petition
Tuesday	Matthew 2, 3, 2 Samuel 24	The Third Petition
Wednesday	Matthew 4, 1 Kings 1, 2	The Fourth Petition
Thursday	Matthew 5: 1-32, 1 Kings 3, 4, 5	The Fifth Petition
Friday	Matthew 5: 33-48, 1 Kings 6, 7	The Sixth Petition
Saturday	Proverbs 13: 1-17, Psalms 84, 85, 86, 87	The Seventh Petition
Sunday	Acts 10: 34-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5: 1-8, John 15: 9-17	The Conclusion

Daily Devotion Resources:

Daily Prayers for Morning, Noon, Evening, Close of Day (LSB 294-298)/*Treasury of Daily Prayer*/Portals of Prayer

Prayer Requests:

- Youth in the Church, especially our Confirmands
- Our Shut-ins
- Pastors of our congregation and Synod, and for increase in the numbers of Seminary students for future Pastors

