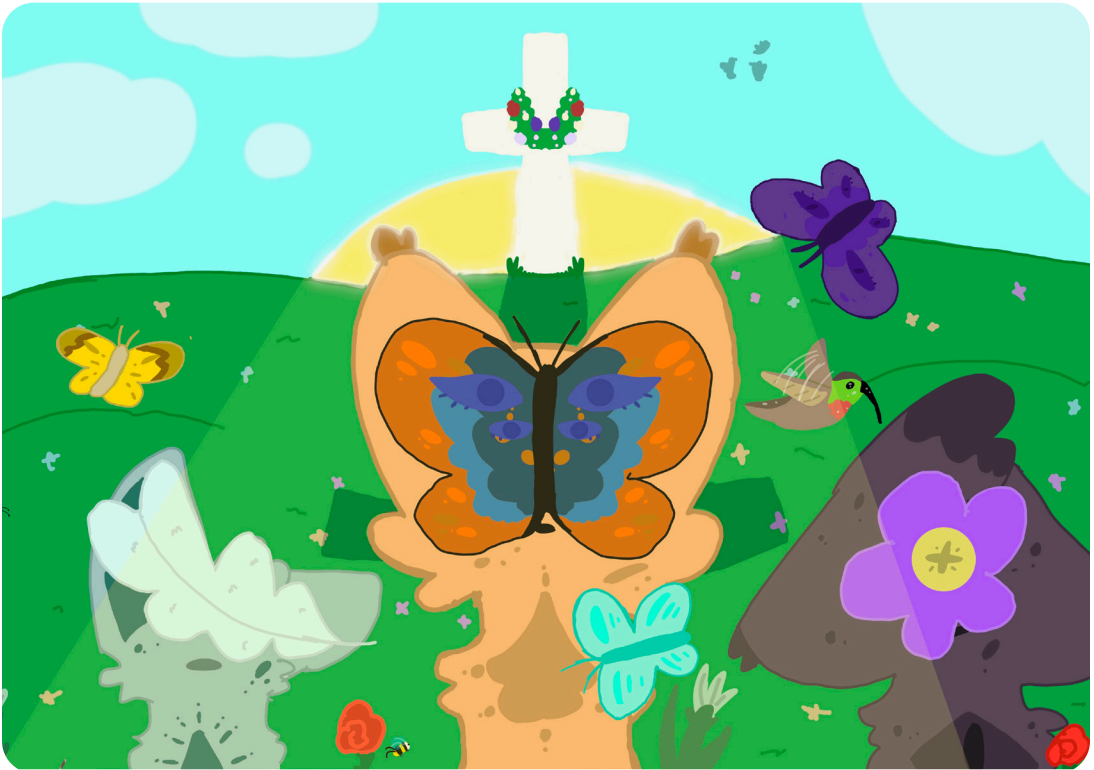




THE  
GATHERING  
AT ST. PAUL'S



# WE HAVE SEEN THE LORD

HOLY EUCHARIST • EASTER SUNDAY • APRIL 5, 2026



# EASTER CELEBRATION

## CALL TO WORSHIP *Please Stand*

CELEBRANT He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. *Colossians 1:15–20 ESV*

PEOPLE **We have seen the Lord!** *John 20:18 ESV*

CELEBRANT “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him.” *Mark 16:6 ESV*

PEOPLE **We have seen the Lord!** *John 20:18 ESV*

CELEBRANT “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” *Luke 24:5–7 ESV*

PEOPLE **We have seen the Lord!** *John 20:18 ESV*

## BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

*Paschal comes from the Latin word Pascha which is from the Hebrew word for “Passover” (Pesach). The Paschal candle is also known as the Christ candle and is lit traditionally from the Easter Vigil through Pentecost (50 days). It symbolizes Christ alive and we alive in Him through the Paschal Mystery in which we are buried with Christ by baptism into His death, and raised with Him to newness of life.*

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

CELEBRANT

Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

CELEBRANT Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

PEOPLE **I do.**

CELEBRANT Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

PEOPLE **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

CELEBRANT Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

PEOPLE **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.**

CELEBRANT Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

PEOPLE **I will, with God's help.**

CELEBRANT Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

PEOPLE **I will, with God's help.**

CELEBRANT Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

PEOPLE **I will, with God's help.**

CELEBRANT Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

PEOPLE **I will, with God's help.**

CELEBRANT Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

PEOPLE **I will, with God's help.**

*The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

CELEBRANT      The Lord be with you.  
PEOPLE          **And with your Spirit.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Let us pray,

O God, who made this most holy day to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection:  
Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed  
both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

CELEBRANT      Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
PEOPLE          **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

### *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* Words by Charles Wesley • Music Easter Hymn • CCLI License #11276422

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!  
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia!  
Praise Him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

## WELCOME

CELEBRANT Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
PEOPLE **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
CELEBRANT Let us pray.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE READINGS

Exodus 14:10-14, 21-31, Colossians 3:1-4

## PSALM 118:14 - 17, 22 - 24

<sup>14</sup> The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and has become my salvation.  
<sup>15</sup> The voice of joy and deliverance is in the  
dwellings of the righteous; \*  
the right hand of the LORD brings  
mighty things to pass.  
<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the LORD is exalted; \*  
the right hand of the LORD brings  
mighty things to pass.

<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.  
<sup>22</sup> The same stone which the builders refused \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.  
<sup>23</sup> This is the LORD's doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.  
<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the LORD has made; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

## *Agnus Dei* Words and Music by Michael W. Smith • CCLI Song # 626713

Alleluia, alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns  
Alleluia, alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns, Alleluia

**Holy, holy are You, Lord God Almighty, worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb  
You are holy, holy are You, Lord God Almighty, worthy is the Lamb, worthy is the Lamb. Amen.**

## THE GOSPEL

*Before the Gospel*

CELEBRANT The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
PEOPLE **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel*

CELEBRANT The Holy Gospel of the Lord. PEOPLE **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *The People respond to every petition with Amen.*

LEADER Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever-living God, in Your holy Word You have taught us to offer prayers and requests, and to give thanks for all whom You have made. We appeal to Your mercy, gracious Lord, that You might hear our prayer.

LEADER Lord, in Your mercy                      PEOPLE **Hear our prayer.**

Inspire Your universal Church by Your Spirit, granting that all who confess Your holy Name may agree in the truth of Your holy Word and live in unity and godly love.

LEADER Lord, in Your mercy                      PEOPLE **Hear our prayer.**

We ask You to rule the hearts of all who govern us, especially our President. May they administer justice, govern wisely, and strive for the welfare and peace of the whole world.

LEADER Lord, in Your mercy                      PEOPLE **Hear our prayer.**

Grant Your heavenly grace to all people, especially these gathered here, that with meek and reverent hearts, we may hear and trust Your holy Word, devoting our lives to Your righteous service.

LEADER Lord, in Your mercy                      PEOPLE **Hear our prayer.**

We humbly ask You, gracious Lord, to comfort and strengthen all those who, in this earthly life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

LEADER Lord, in Your mercy                      PEOPLE **Hear our prayer.**

LEADER I invite you to add your own requests at this time.

## THE PEACE

*The Peace is now exchanged.*

CELEBRANT                      The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE                              **And with your spirit.**

*The liturgy continues with Communion, beginning at the Offertory.*

## OFFERTORY

### **Goodness of God**

*Words and Music by B. Fielding, B. Johnson, E. Cash, J. Ingram, J. Johnson · CCLI Song # 5665521*

I love You Lord, oh Your mercy never fails me, all my days I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head, I will sing of the goodness of God

**All my life You have been faithful, all my life You have been so, so good  
With every breath that I am able, I will sing of the goodness of God**

I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire, in darkest night, You are close like no other  
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend, I have lived in the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me  
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give You everything  
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me

## THE DOXOLOGY *Please stand*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly Host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

CELEBRANT	The Lord be with you.	PEOPLE	<b>And with your spirit.</b>
CELEBRANT	Is the Father with us?	PEOPLE	<b>He is.</b>
CELEBRANT	Is Christ among us?	PEOPLE	<b>He is.</b>
CELEBRANT	Is the Spirit here?	PEOPLE	<b>He is.</b>
CELEBRANT	This is our God.	PEOPLE	<b>Father, Son and Holy Spirit.</b>
CELEBRANT	We are His people.	PEOPLE	<b>We are redeemed.</b>
CELEBRANT	Lift up your hearts.		
PEOPLE	<b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>		
CELEBRANT	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.		
PEOPLE	<b>It is right to give Him thanks and praise.</b>		

*Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name:

*Celebrant & People*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

*The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues*

On the same night that he was betrayed he took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat"; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

PEOPLE **Amen. His body was given for us.**

CELEBRANT

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

PEOPLE **Amen. His blood was shed for us.**

CELEBRANT

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

CELEBRANT

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

PEOPLE

**By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.**

CELEBRANT & PEOPLE

**Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

CELEBRANT And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing:

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, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

CELEBRANT Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

CELEBRANT The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All are welcome at the table. If you are not a baptized Christian or do not wish to take communion, please feel welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. To indicate this, simply cross your arms at your chest as you come forward.*

### **Alleluia No. 1** Words and Music by Donald E. Fisher • CCLI Song #32376

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Give praise to His name.**

Jesus is Lord of all the earth, He is the King of creation...  
Spread the good news o'er all the earth, Jesus has died and has risen...  
We have been crucified with Christ, Now we shall live for ever...  
Come, let us praise the living God, Joyfully sing to our Savior...

### **Raise a Hallelujah** Words and Music by J. Stevens, J. D. Helser, M. Helser, M. Skaggs • CCLI Song # 7119315

I raise a hallelujah in the presence of my enemies  
I raise a hallelujah, louder than the unbelief  
I raise a hallelujah, my weapon is a melody  
I raise a hallelujah, Heaven comes to fight for me

**I'm going to sing in the middle of the storm  
Louder and louder, you're going to hear my praises roar  
Up from the ashes hope will arise, death is defeated, the King is alive**

I raise a hallelujah with everything inside of me  
I raise a hallelujah, I will watch the darkness flee  
I raise a hallelujah in the middle of the mystery  
I raise a hallelujah, fear, you lost your hold on me

### **Christ Is Risen** Words and Music by Matt Maher and Mia Fieldes • CCLI Song # 5242683

Let no one caught in sin remain inside the lie of inward shame  
But fix our eyes upon the cross and run to Him who showed great love  
And bled for us, freely You've bled for us

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling over death by death  
Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave  
Christ is risen from the dead, we are one with Him again  
Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave**

Beneath the weight of all our sin, You bowed to none but heaven's will  
No scheme of hell, no scoffer's crown, no burden great can hold You down  
In strength You reign, forever let Your church proclaim

**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling over death by death**  
**Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave**  
**Christ is risen from the dead, we are one with Him again**  
**Come awake, come awake, come and rise up from the grave**

O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory?  
O church, come stand in the light, the glory of God has defeated the night  
O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory?  
O church, come stand in the light, Our God is not dead. He's alive! He's alive!

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### THE BLESSING

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* Words by Henry Van Dyke • Music by Ludwig van Beethoven

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays  
Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise  
Field and forest vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother: all who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

## CELEBRANT/HOMILIST

The Reverend Edward Leche

## MUSIC

Bryan, Rachel, Beatrice, Leona, and Harriet Brown  
Shannon Uyeda

## ACOLYTE

Ed Skinner

## GOSPELER

The Reverend Scott Walker

## TORCH BEARERS

Kemper Holmes  
Luca Kluth

## ALTAR GUILD

Linda Skinner

## COVER ARTWORK

Harriet I. Brown

