



Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
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Riverside, Illinois 60546
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Rev. Ken Johnson
Interim Pastor
708-442-8511

David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence. You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 10th, 2026 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

HOLY COMMUNION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 4, PAGES 147-155

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

Bouree

J. S. Bach

***EASTER CALL TO WORSHIP**

Praise be to God,
**who rescues us from the power of darkness;
who redeems us, and sets us free!**

Praise be to Jesus Christ, the first born of all creation,
**through whom all things were made,
in heaven and on the earth.**

Praise be to the Spirit of God,
**whose presence sustains us,
and whose breath renews all creation.**

Behold! I am making all things new!
**Come, O God, and make your home among us.
Pour out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

—*from New Heaven, New Earth,
an Easter and Earth Day worship resource (Canadian Foodgrains Bank)*

*GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Acts 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**1 Christ has arisen, alleluia.
Rejoice and praise him, alleluia.
For our redeemer burst from the tomb,
even from death, dispelling its gloom.**

Refrain

**Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!**

*GOSPEL READING

John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

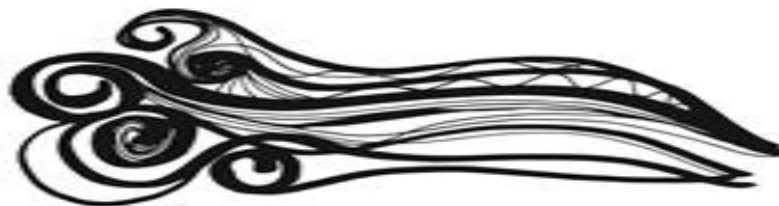
SERMON

Rev. Ken Johnson

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Come Down, O Love Divine

ELW 804



*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ, living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

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

**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.**

**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. Amen**

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill especially... . Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Other prayers may be added here in speech and silence.

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, especially..., who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Gift of Love

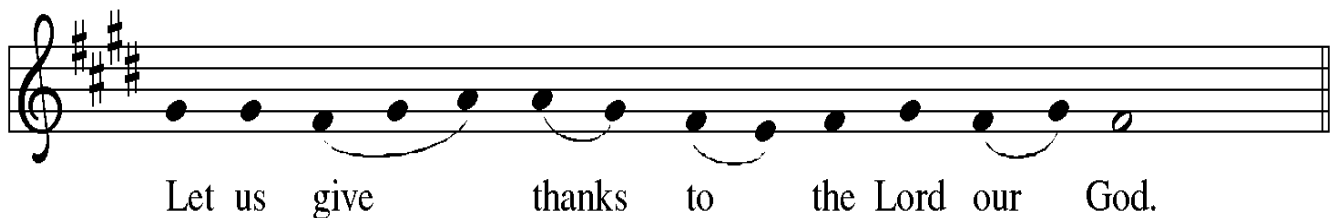
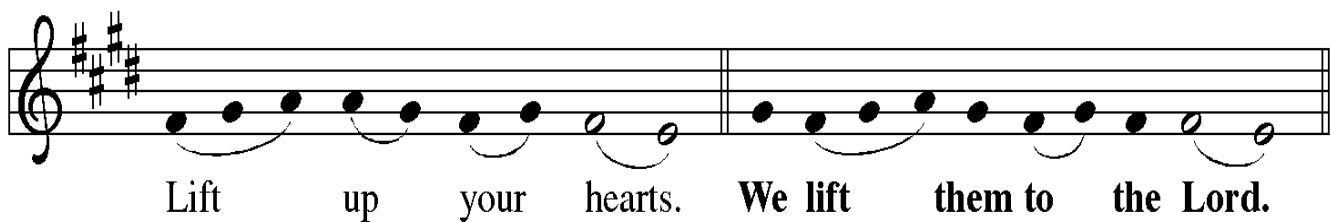
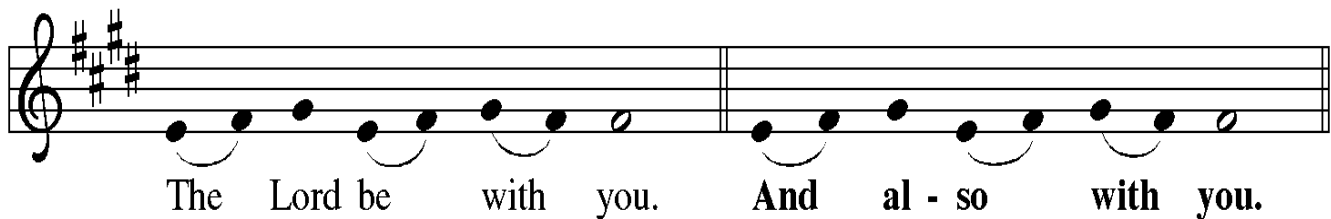
arr. by Hal Hopson

OFFERING OF THE GIFTS

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

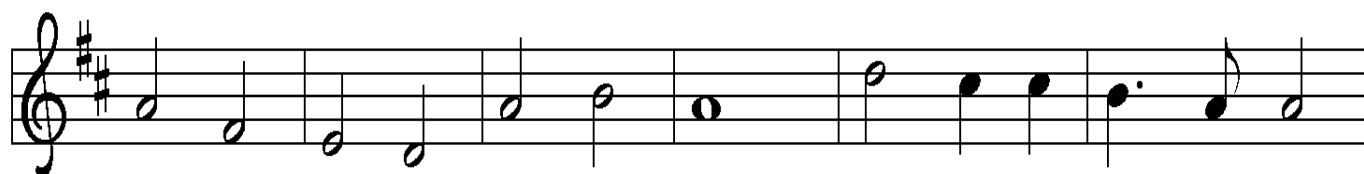
*DIALOGUE



*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever. **Amen**



***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

***EASTER INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

DISTRIBUTION

Meditation

Massenet

***BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BENEDICTION

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Our Father, by Whose Name

ELW 640

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord, Alleluia!
Thanks be to God, Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Walzer

Brahms

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Rev. Ken Johnson

ASSISTING MINISTER

Vicki Michaels

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

Charles Matthies

GREETER

Karyn Bute

LIVE STREAM

Charles Matthies

USHER

Fred Kuzel

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel

IN THE PRAYERS...

Members of the Congregation: Elaine Haase, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lois Mika, and Gregg Valek. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Mary Ann Babiar, Ann Boor, Rich Caliendo, Dan Costello, Tom Doran, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Michael Kerney, Brian Wickenheiser, Lisa Martin, Marcia Matthies, Artem Molovkina, Peter Spilotro, Marta Vrtichova, Geoff Vana, and Tom Zajac.

The flowers at the Lord's Table today are given in loving memory of dear mother and grandmother **+Ramona Suffern+** on the 8th anniversary of her passing today by remembering children Carla Boatright, Brian Suffern, Carrie Watkiss, and their loving families. *Note: The cost of altar flowers beginning April 1st has increased to \$25.00 per vase.*

Welcome back and thank you to our Interim Pastor **Rev. Ken Johnson** for serving as the preaching and presiding minister in the liturgy this morning during our time of transition. Homebound members wishing a visit from Pastor Johnson can use the contact information below to arrange an in-person or phone visit. Pastor Johnson will serve as the presiding minister at our services on the second Sunday of each month. In the event of a pastoral emergency Pastor Johnson can be reached via e-mail or mobile phone at Ken6168@sbcglobal.net of 773-947-4488, or his home at 708-442-8511.

North Riverside Parks and Recreation will host their annual **Senior Fair on Tuesday, May 19th** from 9 am til noon at the Village Commons, 2401 S. DesPlaines Avenue. Over 50 organizations will be represented at this free event to offer senior-related services including home health, medical representatives, retirement communities, government agencies, legal and financial advisors, insurance companies, health specialists, community groups, senior clubs, and more! Lunch will be provided by Kuratko-Nosek Funeral Homes. For more information about the Senior Fair, contact 708-442-5515 or visit www.northriverside-il.org/300/Parks-Recreation.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering
May 3rd, 2026

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2026:</i>	\$1,827.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,290.00
<i>Surplus:</i>	\$ 537.00

Benevolence is our commitment to SZS and ELCA missionary support.
The budget's current need will be adjusted when a
new pastor accepts our call.

Donations are welcome via Zelle at donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org.



Loving God, we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end. May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them. We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love, or time or patience. We ask you to bless them with your own special love. And we ask this in the name of Jesus, our brother. Amen.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Matthias, Apostle

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

