

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS

503 S. State Street, Caro, MI 48723

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Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26, 2026, 8:30 AM

April 29, 2026, 7:00 PM

Divine Service Setting 3 Abbreviated



AS WE GATHER

One of the longest lasting of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World was the Pharos Lighthouse that was constructed at the entry of the harbor of Alexandria, Egypt, in the third century BC.

Although weakened by a series of earthquakes, it remained standing in part until AD 1480. Initially, its source of light was the brightness of the sun reflected in a great mirror by day and the flames of a great wood fire reflected by the same mirror at night. The gradual disintegration of the tower,

initially some 330 feet in height, finally extinguished its light. As He spoke with His disciples, Jesus described Himself as the light that never will be extinguished. John reports: "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life'" (John 8:12). On our journey through this dark world, we are blessed to have the light of Christ as our unfailing guide. It truly is the light no darkness can overcome.



FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” LSB 711

(Please stand)

INVOCATION *(Spoken responses)*

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

Amen.

EXHORTATION

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

CONFESSION OF SINS

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

ABSOLUTION

[John 20:19–23]

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 95:1–3, 6–7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

GLORIA PATRI ♪

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen.**

KYRIE ♪

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory be to God on high:

and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY: Easter 4

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42–47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: 1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did

not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

(Please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:1–10

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG OF THE MONTH:

“Alive”

(Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus)

**He is alive, I’m thankful. The King is alive, I’m free.
He is alive I’m thankful. The King is alive in me.**

**He let Himself be put on a tree, but that could not hold Him down.
He rolled that stone away from the grave, that could not hold Him down.**

Chorus:

**Jesus said, “Go and tell of Me,” and “I will be back again.
I’ll be in ev’ry word you say,” and “I will be back again.”**

Chorus:

CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Shepherd of Tender Youth” LSB 864

SERMON

OFFERING *(Please fill out the fellowship pad in the pew.)*

(Please stand, sing)

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free
spirit. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE *(Sing responses)*

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE (Abbreviated)

It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ♪

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He,
blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28;

PAX DOMINI *(Sing response)*

John 20:19

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI 

John 1:29

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

VISITORS:

Please read the communion statement at the beginning of this worship folder.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

“Come unto Me, Ye Weary” LSB 684

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb” LSB 740

(Please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS 

Luke 2:29–32

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before
the face of all people,**

a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercy endureth forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Let us pray...

Amen

SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

BENECICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen, amen, amen.

(Please be seated)

HYMN TO DEPART:

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” LSB 722

LEAVING

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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