

# St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS

503 S. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 | 989-673-4214, [www.stpaulcaro.org](http://www.stpaulcaro.org)

Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 10, 2026, 11:00 AM | Contemporary Service



**AS WE GATHER** Throughout our lives, we look for a helper. Maybe that's a parent who can hold our hand to cross the street, a spouse who can open the pickle jar, or an expert who delivers wisdom we don't have. Our Lord Jesus Christ sends us a helper, the promised Holy Spirit. The Spirit opens our heart to faith and then fills it with heavenly wisdom. Present in our Baptism and present today in worship, the Spirit keeps our hand firmly in our Savior's, so that linked by love, we can walk confidently in His promises.



### **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.)*

### **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

*(Chorus, Verse, Chorus)*

### **“All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises”**

#### **Chorus:**

**You lived, You died, You said in three days You would rise  
You did, You're alive  
You rule, You reign, You said You're coming back again  
I know You will, and all the earth will sing Your praises  
All the earth will sing Your praises.**

**You took, You take our sins away, O God  
You give, You gave Your life away for us  
You came down, You saved us through the cross  
Our hearts are changed because of Your great love.**

## WELCOME

*(Please stand)*

## INVOCATION

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

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 124:8; John 14:18; Hebrews 13:6*

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

Jesus said, "I will not leave you as orphans;  
**I will come to you."**

So we can confidently say,

**"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*John 14:19*

We confess: Father, we have neglected You and Your commandments.  
**Forgive us, Lord.**

Jesus, we have doubted Your Word and failed to display Your love to others.  
**Forgive us, Lord.**

Spirit, we have trusted our own sinful hearts rather than seeking Your truth.  
**Forgive us, Lord.**

O Triune God, look on us in mercy and make Your dwelling within us.

**Restore us as Your rescued people to seek Your holy will. Amen.**

To save you from sin, the Father gave you His very own Son. On His cross,  
Jesus paid your debt and rose to declare, "because I live, you also will live."

By the Spirit's power, we trust in the pardon won for us by Christ, our Lord.

In the stead and by the command of 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 119:89-93; antiphon: v. 105*

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path.

**Forever, O LORD, your word  
is firmly fixed in the heavens.**

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;  
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

**By your appointment they stand this day,  
for all things are your servants.**

If your law had not been my delight,  
I would have perished in my affliction.

**I will never forget your precepts,  
for by them you have given me life.**

**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.**

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path.

*(Please be seated)*

**SONG OF PRAISE**

**“Christ is Risen”**

*(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus, Chorus)*

**Let no one caught in sin remain  
Inside the lie of inward shame  
We fix our eyes upon the cross  
And run to him who showed great love  
And bled for us  
Freely you bled, for us**

**Chorus:**

**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 Chorus**

**Bridge:**

**Oh death! Where is your sting?**

**Oh hell! Where is your victory?**

**Oh Church! Come stand in the light!**

**The glory of God has defeated the night!**

**Oh death! Where is your sting?**

**Oh hell! Where is your victory?**

**Oh Church! Come stand in the light!**

**Our God is not dead, he's alive! he's alive! Chorus**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

*(Please be seated)*

### **FIRST READING: Acts 17:16–31**

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” <sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it,

being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup>for

“In him we live and move and have our being’;

as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we are indeed his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup>Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE: 1 Peter 3:13–22**

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God’s patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus

Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

**HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:15–21**

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

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, 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:**

**“The Fruit of the Spirit”**

*(Refrain, verse, refrain, verse, refrain, verse, refrain)*

Refrain:

**For the fruit of the Spirit is Love, joy, peace,  
Patience, kindness, goodness,  
Faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;  
For such there is no law.**

**Have you seen my Lord on the cross so high?  
Do you know His name? Do you hear his cry?  
“Father, here’s my love, Father, take my love,  
As the tree bears fruit for You.” (refrain)**

**Have you seen His face and the look He gave  
To the dying man He alone would save?  
“Sinner, here’s my love, Sinner, take my love  
As the tree bears fruit for You.” (refrain)**

**Can we answer Him? Can the heart reply?  
How to follow Him as we live and die!  
“Jesus, here’s our love. Jesus take our love,  
As the tree bears fruit for You.” (refrain)**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**SONG OF THE DAY**

**“God of Wonders”**

*(Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)*

**Chorus:**

**God of Wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy;  
The universe declares Your majesty. You are holy, holy;  
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky,  
The heavens are Your tabernacle; glory to the Lord on high.**

**Chorus:**

**Early in the morning I will celebrate the light.  
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night.**

**Chorus:**

**Bridge:**

**Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Chorus:**

## **MESSAGE**

**OFFERING** *(Please fill out the fellowship pad beside you)*

*(Please stand)*

## **PRAYERS**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Visitors, please read the statement at the beginning of this service folder.)*

### **WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away.**

**Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

*(Please be seated)*

## **RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **DISTRIBUTION SONG**

*(5 verses)*

Oh God, know me  
Oh God, know me  
For your holiness is all I desire  
For your righteousness is all I desire  
Your unending love is all I desire  
Oh God know me.

2. Oh God, hold me...
3. Oh God, forgive me...
4. Oh God, heal me...
5. Oh God, speak to me...

**“Know Me”**

### **DISTRIBUTION SONG**

*(4 Verses)*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Riches I need not, nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art

High King of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Son  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision, O ruler of all

**“Be Thou My Vision”**

*(Please stand)*

## **PRAYER OF THANKS**

**Amen**

## **BLESSING**

*(Please be seated)*

## **SONG TO DEPART**

**“Love the Lord”**

*(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Verse, Chorus, Verse)*

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength. (2x)**

**With all your heart. With all your soul.  
With all your mind. With all your strength.**

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.**

**I will serve the Lord with all my heart  
with all my soul, with all my mind,  
and with all my strength. (2x)**

**With all my heart. With all my soul.  
With all my mind. With all my strength.**

**I will love You Lord, with all my heart,  
with all my soul, with all my mind,  
and with all my strength.**

## **LEAVING**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.

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**St. Paul Lutheran Church LCMS, 503 S. State St., Caro, Michigan CCLI#277564**

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