

Mission Statement

St. Paul United Methodist Church exists to honor God by making more disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Church Ministry Staff

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 5, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Prelude

Low in the Grave He Lay
by R. Lowry arr L. Smith

Welcome and Announcements:

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Easter people, Christ is risen! God is doing a new thing!

People: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Leader: Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear!

People: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Leader: God has transformed a dead end into a new start!

People: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Leader: Easter people, raise your voices! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

***Opening Prayer:**

Leader: Together let us pray.

People: God of the resurrection, we gather this morning as a community of believers. We come with joy to greet one another and to tell again and again the amazing news: Christ is risen! Love is victorious over death! You have given us new life in the name of your Son! May our singing, praying, listening and proclaiming be a testimony to the power of your love to make us a new creation as a community of faith. We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise: Christ the Lord is Risen Today (vs. 1-4) No. 302**
Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heaven in chorus say,
Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and
earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won,
Alleluia! Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise,
Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Alleluia! Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where's thy victory,
boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head,
Alleluia! Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave,
the skies, Alleluia!

First Lesson: Luke 24:1-12

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem: Lift High Your Easter Praise by D. Angerman & J. Martin

***Second Lesson: John 11:17-26,34-44**

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn: Because He Lives** No. 364
God sent his Son, they called him Jesus; he came to love, heal, and forgive;
he lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove my
Savior lives.

Refrain

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because
he lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby, and feel the pride and joy he gives; but
greater still the calm assurance, this child can face uncertain days because
he lives. (Refrain)

And then one day I'll cross the river; I'll fight life's final war with pain; and
then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he
reigns. (Refrain)

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison):

“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.” Amen.

Sermon: “I AM: The Resurrection and the Life “

Pastor Mindi Gochnaur

The Affirmation of our Stewardship

Offertory Christ Is the Way, the Truth, the Life by T. Kendall

***Congregational Response**

No. 95

*** Prayer of Dedication (in unison):** God of New Beginnings, you roll away
more than stones. You roll away despair and doubt, fear and failure. On this
Resurrection morning, we offer our gifts in gratitude for the new life we have
found in Christ. Let these offerings be signs of our commitment to live
differently – eyes open, hearts awakened, hands ready to serve. May what we
give today help announce to the world that hope is alive, love has triumphed
and joy cannot be contained. Use us and what we offer to keep telling the
story: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen.

Holy Communion

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Prayer for our Confirmation Class

Jaden Eger, Addie Luzier, Mason Souders, Madigan Weyant & Emma Wilson

