

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

201 S. Main Street, Spring Grove, PA 17362 717-225-3466

Pastor: Rev. Alison Bowlan-Kurland pastor@stpaullutheranchurchsg.com

Website: www.//stpaulchurchsg.com

Our Mission: To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known

Welcome to St. Paul Church! We pray the Lord will bless you through our worship this morning. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to Pastor Alison after the service.

Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion: We welcome all baptized believers to the Lord's Table who believe the risen Lord Jesus is truly present in the sacrament for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. Children may commune at any time at the discretion of their parent/guardian.

Order of Service from Lutheran Book of Worship, copyright 1978 © @Augsburg Fortress.

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EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

* Stand (as able) P: Pastor

LBW: Lutheran Book of Worship (green book)

C: Congregation

WOV: With One Voice Songbook (blue book) NRSV: New Revised Standard Version Bible

Prelude: Lift Every Voice and Sing (LBW #562).....music by Ian Hoke

*Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P: We thank you, risen Christ,

for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us

in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,

like rains to our thirsting earth,

like streams that revive our souls.

like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.

Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

- P: Christ is Risen!
- C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- *Opening Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today (LBW #151).....bulletin page #25 lan Hoke (piano) accompanied by Simon Bowlan (trumpet)

*Apostolic Greeting

- P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

* Hymn of Praise

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!





*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

P: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43

NRSV pg. 1002-1003

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ-he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (read responsively)

NRSV pg. 554

- L: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's mercy endures forever!
- C: Let Israel now declare, "God's mercy endures forever."
- L: The Lord is my strength and my song; and has become my salvation.
- C: Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous "The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!"
- L: The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!
- C: I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.
- L: The Lord indeed punished me sorely but did not hand me over to death.
- C: Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
- L: This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.
- C: I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.
- L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- C: By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.
- L: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

NRSV pg. 1048

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born; he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Processional Hymn: The Strife is O'er, the Battle Won (LBW #135 v.1)bulletin page #26

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 16th Chapter



Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

NRSV pg. 929

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!



Gospel Processional Hymn: The Strife is O'er, the Battle Won (LBW #377 v.2)bulletin page 26

Children's Message

Sermon

*Sermon Hymn: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds (LBW #143)...bulletin page #27

*The Nicene Creed:

P: Let us confess the faith of the Church with the Nicene Creed.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Prayers of the Church

- P: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen, and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.
- P: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen

*Passing of the Peace

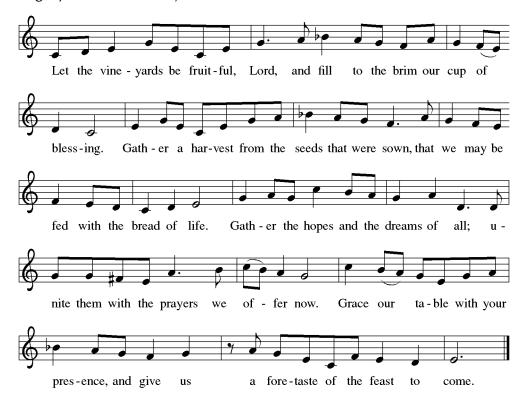
P: The Peace of the Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

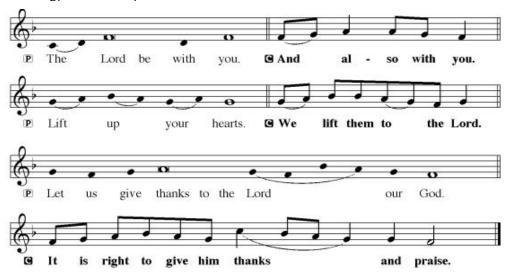
Offertory:

*Offering Hymn: Let the Vineyards be Fruitful



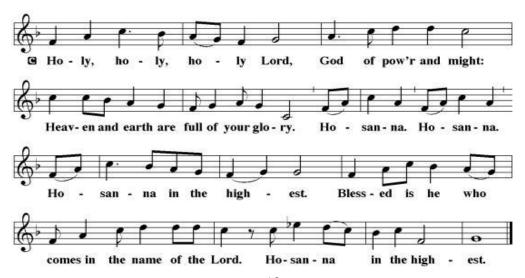
- P: Let us pray,
- C: Merciful Father, we offer with joy and Thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Liturgy of the Holy Communion



L: It is indeed salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you....

....we praise your name and join in their unending hymn.



- P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth... ...as he comes to us in his holy supper.
- C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P: ...Do this for remembrance of me.
- P: And so we pray with confidence, as our Lord has taught us:
- C: 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.
- P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.
- C: Thanks be to God.

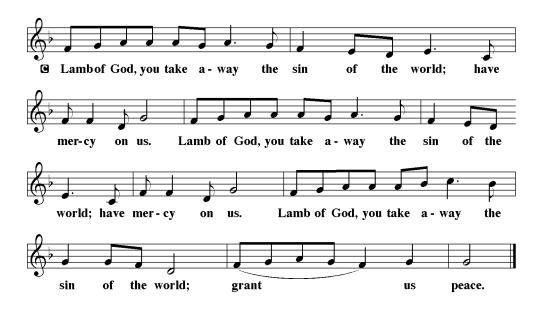
*Communion Distribution

All are welcomed forward to receive communion. Our ushers will dismiss each row to come forward and receive communion elements from the pastor. While coming forward to receive the elements, you are invited to take a communion cup from one of our acolytes. You will then receive bread from the pastor and wine, or grape juice will be poured into the cup you previously received by a communion assistant.

Children are invited to receive at the discernment of their families. Any who would prefer not to partake are invited to come forward and receive a blessing from the pastor. You may signal this by crossing your arms across your chest.

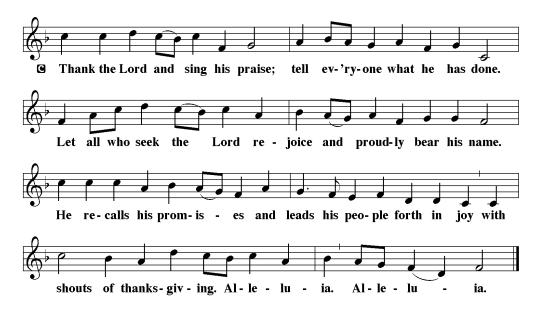


*Communion Hymns



- o We Who Once Were Dead (LBW #207)bulletin page 28
- o At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (LBW #210)bulletin page 29
- P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
- C: Amen.

*Post-Communion Canticle



*Post-Communion Prayer and Blessing:

P: We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn: I Know That My Redeemer Lives! (LBW #352)bulletin pages #30

*Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (LBW #526).....music by Ian Hoke

Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Glatfelter, Mr. & Mrs. P.H. Glatfelter II, and Mr. & Mrs. P. H. Glatfelter III, by Trish Foulkrod.

Bulletins are in loving memory of my parent's wedding anniversary, Jane Bergstresser and the Reverend Robert Klingensmith, by Jane Fasano.

Today's Communion Elements are in honor of my brothers and sisters in Christ, by Jane Fasano.



Easter Lily in honor of Carolyn Diehl, from Carl Diehl

Easter Lily in honor of Beth Ann Staub, from Carl Diehl

WORSHIP AIDES

Acolytes: Carly Thompson, Eli Leppo **Audio/Visual Team**: Michael Kurland

Bible Bearer: Titus Bowlan **Crucifer:** Clara Hoffman **Lector:** Steve Murfin

Communion Assistants: Ted Legore, Emily Wryk

Music: Ian Hoke

Usher-Captain: Jim Gingerich

LECTIONARY/LESSONS – SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133, 1 John 1:1—2:2, John 20:19-31

PRAYER LIST

Carol Sollenberger

Barb Orndorff

Bill Thoman

Victoria Martin

Elliott Leonard

Viola Zorbaugh

Kathy Godfrey

Jesse Betlyon

Pat Berkheimer (cancer)

Barb Gault

Tere Greer

Lou Long

Sheila Geuvin

Steve Tiehel

Sara Smith

Larry Hamby

Betty Poff

Brian Miller (surgery)

Robyn Jirsa

Christine Smith

Doug Ewing

Sandy Mummert

Jan Hersh (heart problems)

Mary Kessler

Tom Uffelman

Scott Wisner (brain cancer)

Sue Smith

Sally Hoover (illness)

CARING CORNER

Each week the Visitation Committee will share a name, number, and address for you to reach out and send a card to and let someone know that you are praying for them.

Bill Thoman, 83 York Avenue, Spring Grove, PA 17362

FINANCE NEWS

This financial information shows the total receipts and expenses for the general fund for the current calendar year, as well as the current deficit or surplus.

Please forward any questions to Amy at Amy.Thompson@stpaullutheranchurchsg.com

General Fund Summary February 2024

Total Revenues 65,380.33 Total Expenditures 74,252.07

Net -8,871.74

Quarterly Donation Statements - Please Read

The Finance Committee has decided to eliminate quarterly donation statements. Annual statements will be mailed in January. If you would like to continue to receive quarterly donation statements, please call or email Amy Thompson at 484-336-4077 or Amy.Thompson@stpaullutheranchurchsg.com. As a reminder, you may request a donation statement at any time during the year by contacting Amy.

GIVE ELECTRONICALLY TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF ST. PAUL

Did you want to contribute during the offering today, but you have no cash or check? Scan the QR Code below to go straight to the St. Paul Electronic Giving Page. Thank you so much for contributing to the ministry happening at St. Paul Lutheran!

If you would like help setting up recurring giving, please contact Amy Thompson at Amy.Thompson@stpaullutheranchurchsg.com or by phone at 484-336-4077.



ST. PAUL'S SPRING WORK DAY

Saturday, April 20, from 8:00 a.m. -12:00 Noon

The property committee is looking for volunteers to help with various tasks both inside and outside the church on St. Paul's Spring Work Day. The intent is to clean, organize and improve the church. We will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 20th.

Please sign up on the volunteer sheet posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board for either indoor or outdoor tasks. We look forward to seeing you there!



HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING – TUESDAY, APRIL 9

The Historical Society will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, April 9, at 7:00 p.m. It's free and open to the public. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

TODAY – EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast - Fellowship Hour

9:00 a.m. Worship

9:00 a.m. "LIVE Stream Worship Online" Worship available through YouTube Live

Fellowship Hour - Fellowship Hall

No Adult or Children's Sunday School No Children's Choir Practice

MONDAY, APRIL 1- Church Office Closed

8:30 a.m. Quilters (basement) (No Cub Scout meeting in building tonight)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

10:00 a.m. Bible Study - Parlor

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

10:00 a.m. Preschool Playgroup (6:30 p.m. Scout Leaders meeting – 1st floor conference room) 7:00 p.m. Traditional Choir Practice

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

6:00 p.m. Hospitality Committee meeting – Fellowship Hall

(6:30-8:00 p.m. Scouts meeting -basement/3rd floor)

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

EVENTS:

- **Youth Escape Room Event** Friday, April 12 meet at the church at 6:30 p.m.
- Children's Rocket Launching Event Sunday, April 14, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at 944 Sunnyside Road, York (Rain Date April 21)
- o Vacation Bible School Monday, June 10, thru Friday, June 14, from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP: St. Paul Playgroup is held every Wednesday from 10:00-11:30 a.m. on the third floor. To join the St. Paul Playgroup email list, scan the QR Code below:





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

St. Paul Church is excited to announce that registration for Vacation Bible School is now open! June 10-14, 9:00-11:30 a.m. / Kindergarten thru Grade 6

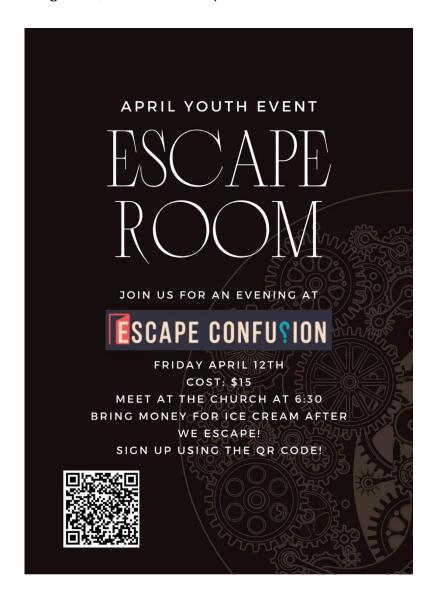
To register, scan the QR Code:



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

YOUTH EVENT – ESCAPE ROOM – FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Sign up by scanning the QR code on the flyer below.



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

ELEMENTARY ROCKET LAUNCH EVENT – APRIL 14



GOSPEL MESSAGE

March 31, 2024

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, EASTER DAY

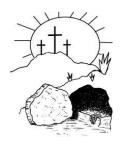
The Stone-Moving Power of God

Special effort had been taken to seal up Jesus' tomb. Pilate and the religious authorities had taken great care to make absolutely certain there was no way Jesus' followers could move that stone themselves. They posted armed guards all around.

If they had had the technology back then, we could well imagine that floodlights, security cameras, and an alarm system would have been added to the tomb. But none of that would have mattered. For nothing in heaven or on earth could have stopped the stone-moving power of our God. An angel messenger comes in a brilliant flash to roll that stone away, and then he sits on it to share the good news that Jesus is alive. What had been intended by those who persecuted Jesus as a *period*—a full stop for the Jesus movement—becomes a *pulpit* for proclamation: "Do not be afraid!" (Matthew 28:5). Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

As we remember the story of Jesus' resurrection, we tune our hearts and minds to trust that this God who brings life out of death is still at work. What stones might God be moving today? Might we sense the Spirit at work in our lives here and now, rumbling the ground of our hearts and rolling away the messages of shame, fear, or rejection that have weighed us down? Might God be at work, rolling away stones of oppression and injustice in our world? Might we be sent, like these women, to not let fear rule our hearts, but to go, tell, and witness to a God who continues to open up a new future for us? Yes! The risen Christ appears to us today—present in word, and bread and wine, and water—ready to bless, nourish, call, and send. Nothing can stop this God. Jesus Christ is risen, indeed—Alleluia!

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Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done



Text: Symphonia Sirenum, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909 Music: VICTORY, Giovanni P. da Palestrina, 1525–1594, adapt.

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



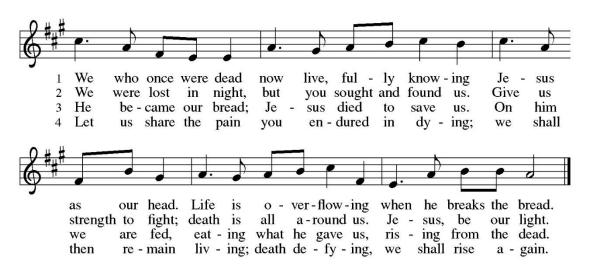
Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

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We Who Once Were Dead



5 Jesus, you were dead, but you rose and, living, made yourself our bread, in your goodness giving life though we were dead. 6 This is your design; in this meal we meet you. Be our bread and wine, Jesus, we entreat you. This shall be our sign.

Text: Muus Jacobse, 1909–1972; tr. composite
Music: MIDDEN IN DE DOOD, Rik Veelenturf, b. 1936
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At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky, hell's fierce pow'rs beneath you lie; you have conquered in the fight, you have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall; you have opened paradise, and your saints in you shall rise. Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; from sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in you to be. Alleluia!
- 8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: office hymn, 17th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-1868, alt. Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, Kirchengeseng, 1566

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!



- 5 He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above; he lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend; he lives and loves me to the end; he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing; he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath; he lives, and I shall conquer death; he lives my mansion to prepare; he lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same; what joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor	Rev. Alison Bowlan-Kurland	717-381-1393
Church Musician	Ian Hoke	667-207-0550
Parish Administrator	Sandra Moler	717-225-3466
Financial Administrator	Amy Thompson	484-336-4077
Director of Faith		
and Family Ministries	Amy Thompson	484-336-4077
Council President	Karen Myers	717-495-5117

