



*Vindicate Me, O God, and defend My cause against an ungodly people,
from the deceitful and unjust man deliver Me! For You are the God in whom I take refuge.*

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2022

9:30 a.m.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:18–24

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29

Who receives this sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass

A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail. We offer gluten free wafers, please advise Pastor Ermeling as he comes by during communion.

As We Gather

The ancient name for today, the Fifth Sunday in Lent, is Judica, the Latin behind “vindicate” in the Introit. This Sunday prepares us for next Sunday’s review of the Passion. Only in Christ are we truly vindicated. But the emphasis is on our response to God’s love and forgiveness. In today’s Gospel, Jesus inverts the usual triangle of power into an upside-down pyramid of service. The greatest in God’s kingdom, the position sought by His disciples in the Gospel, is now at the bottom, serving everyone above. Jesus is describing Himself! In contrast to priests who repeatedly pray for others and offer sacrifices also for their own sins, Jesus was a one-time priest, offering Himself as the sacrifice while being sinless. In this new covenant, promised in the Reading from Jeremiah, we know of our Lord’s great love, now written in our hearts. From the inside out, our desire is to return Christ’s sacrificial, forgiving love by serving one another in His name.

*During Lent the service begins with the Litany and the Collect of the Day.
This replaces the regular Preparatory Rite, Introit, and Kyrie.*

Stand

✠ THE LITANY ✠

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| P O Lord, | C have mercy. |
| P O Christ, | C have mercy. |
| P O Lord, | C have mercy. |
| P O Christ, | C hear us. |
| P God the Father in Heaven, | C have mercy. |
| P God the Son, Redeemer of the world, | C have mercy. |
| P God the Holy Spirit, | C have mercy. |
| P Be gracious to us. | C Spare us, good Lord. |
| P Be gracious to us. | C Help us, good Lord. |
| P From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death: | |
| C Good Lord, deliver us. | |

P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross
and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the
Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity;
In the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C Help us, good Lord.

P We poor sinners implore You:

C to hear us, O Lord.

P To rule and govern Your Holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of
Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to
sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who
have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to
accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the
weakhearted and the distressed:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to
give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates
and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and
guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness
in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and
to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and
preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God:

C We implore You to hear us.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

P O Christ,

C hear us.

P O Lord,

C have mercy.

P O Christ,

C have mercy.

P O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Salutation and Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. We beseech Thee, Almighty God: mercifully to look upon Thy people; that by Thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost: ever one God, world without end.

C Amen.

Hymn

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

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✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Sit

Old Testament

Numbers 21:4–9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 143:9a, 10a; 18:48a, c

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God!

You delivered me from my enemies;

You rescued me from the man of violence.

Epistle

Ephesians 2:4–10

⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 129:1–4

“Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth” —
let Israel now say —

**“Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth,
yet they have not prevailed against me.**

The plowers plowed upon my back;
they made long their furrows.”

**The LORD is righteous;
He has cut the cords of the wicked.**

Holy Gospel

John 3:14–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Stand

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.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

God Loved the World So That He Gave

571

Sermon

Offering

Stand

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

- P** Let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
- C** It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of Heaven we laud and magnify Your Glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The 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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \dagger Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My \dagger Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

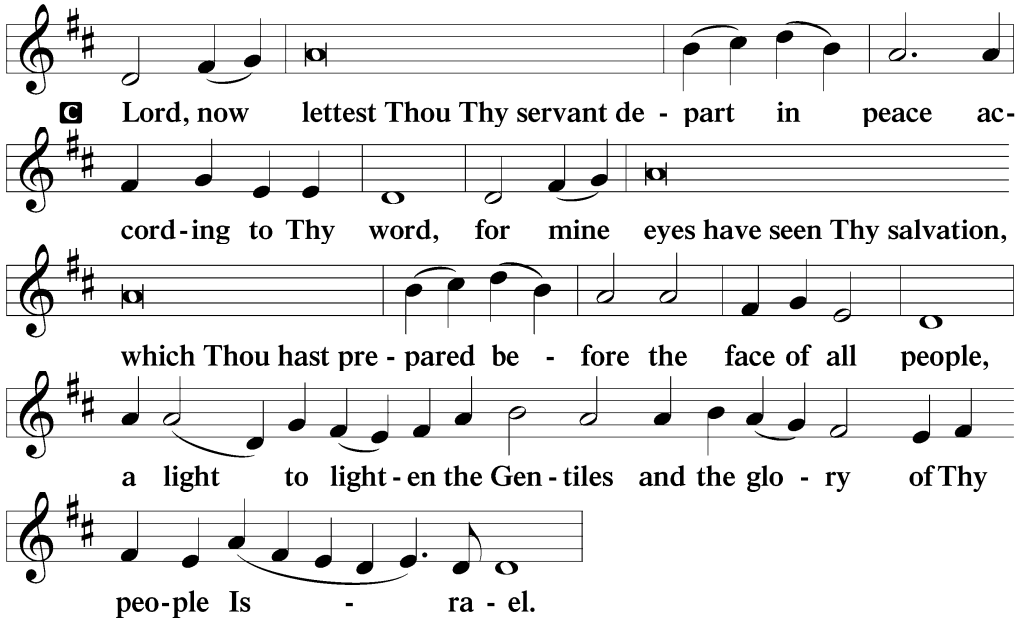
Sit

Distribution Hymns

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary	423
Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow	428
Glory Be to Jesus	433

Stand

Nunc Dimittis



C 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 Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.

C And His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your Only-Begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn

O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

439 sts. 1-5

Acknowledgments

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"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"

BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, April 6	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
Wednesday, April 9	5:00pm	BOD Meeting	Library
	7:00pm	Midweek Lenten Divine Service	Sanctuary
Saturday, April 12	8:30pm	CPR Class	Irmer Hall

BIRTHDAYS

04/06 – Michelle Parcenka
04/07 – Liz Moreno
04/08 – Mary Howard

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

04/07 – David Belleh
04/07 - Heather Belleh
04/07 – Oliver Belleh
04/07 – Pauline Belleh
04/07 – Zechariah Paxton
04/07 – Felicia Suzar

MAKING A PALM CROSS – Saturday, April 12, 2025

Pastor Ermeling will be teaching and making palm crosses for Palm Sunday service on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at 11:00am in Irmer Hall.

EASTER LILIES

This year the price of lilies will be \$12.00 each. The deadline for orders is April 13, Palm Sunday. Please use the white pew envelopes under, OFFERING: select: Lilies. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church (please write, “Easter Lilies” on the memo line). If you would like to include a Dedication or Memorial, please note that as well.

SOCIAL MINISTRY – CANNED FOOD DONATIONS

We have been collecting canned food for the past several months. Please continue to place your canned foods on the Social Ministry cart in the Narthex. These donations will be taken to the West Valley Community Food Pantry housed at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 7205 N. 51st Ave, Glendale.

TIME TO RENEW ANNUAL LUTHERAN WITNESS

Lutheran Witness renewal for the new subscription year is July 2025. The price is \$27.65 for 11 issues (June/July is a combined edition). They are delivered to your home address. If you are interested in receiving the *Lutheran Witness* Magazine, please contact the church office at 623-846-2228 or email, info@stpaulslutheran-az.com. For payment, please use the pew envelopes, designated for *Lutheran Witness*. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church (please write *Lutheran Witness* on the memo line) and place it in the offering collection plate on Sunday. **The deadline to subscribe is April 27.**

EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: The 2025 Movie “Snow White,” The 1550 Magdeburg Confession, A Christian Response to Gender Ideology, The Importance of Palm Sunday, Roman Catholic Indulgences and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

LENT & EASTER SCHEDULE

March 12 – April 9, Wednesdays	Divine Services	7:00 PM
April 13	– Palm Sunday	9:30 AM
April 17	– Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM
April 18	– Good Friday	7:00 PM
April 20	– Easter Sunday	9:30 AM

“...He bore the sin of many, and makes
intercession for the transgressors.” Isaiah 53:12

LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at info@stpaul Lutheran-az.com. Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Mary Howard, recovering a recent fall; after Mary will undergo physical therapy.

Suzi Riley-Malsack, undergoing physical therapy after a fall.

Charlie Cook – exp. procedure to heal bladder

Kevin Stamm – health issues

Nigel Proctor – suffering from severe digestive issues

Jorge Jimenez – fighting cancer

Wayne Bartels – ongoing health issues

Rose Tressler – ongoing health issues

Nicholas Jimenez, Linda Rossow, Jim Rucker, Pat Haas

FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Rei Irmer (sister of Louise Ahrens) prayers for continued healing.

David Wies (cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with leukemia and will be undergoing treatment.

Sharon Wies (wife of Cliff Wies, cousin of Vickie Hulteen) diagnosed with metastatic lung cancer.

Nick Koontz (husband of Mary Howard’s stepdaughter) diagnosed with leukemia.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.

PSWD Missions

PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Substitute Pastors and their families

The Rev. Jeff Proctor and family

Sunday School teachers & children

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

Lexington Life Academy families & staff

OUR NATION: For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (*members, friends, or relatives*): Jackson Buffington, Lucas Butterfass, Nathanael Dyjak, Juan Garcia, Robert Gilmore, Tiffany Gilmore, Robert Majewski, Mike Nguyen, Ethan Peterman, Andy Smiley, Jacob Wilson

OUR SHUT-INS: Anne Smith