

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

Pastor - Rev. Paul Krentz Church (952) 955-1498, Home (952) 955-5097  
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**CHRIST COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL:** *ccls.net*

Principal - Jeff Boehlke (952) 955-1419

**LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL:** *lhsmayer.mn.org*

Executive Director - Joel Landskroener (952) 657-2251

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2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER/CONFIRMATION DAY MAY 1, 2011

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THIS SUNDAY we rejoice as Jordan Berrios, Garrett Corkins, Zachary Daly, Rochelle Dressel, Mackenzie Farber, Shelby Prader, and Lesley Wasser confess their faith in Jesus Christ, which was created in their hearts by the Holy Spirit through Baptism. As a congregation we pray that these young men and women will continue in their faith and so receive the crown of eternal life Jesus promises to all who believe in Him!

WELCOME to all who are visiting today! Our greatest desire is to share that wonderful message of forgiveness and eternal salvation for all in Jesus' name. We pray you will be drawn closer to Christ as the Holy Spirit nurtures us through God's Word in this service. Before you leave, please, take time to sign our guest register in the entrance way, and we hope you will join us every week as we gather as God's family in worship.

**10:30am**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC + WELCOME

**SONG: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"**

1. Alleluia alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise: Sing to God a hymn of gladness, Sing to God a hymn of praise. He who on the cross a victim, For the world's salvation bled. Jesus Christ the King of Glory, Now is risen from the dead.

2. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat; See the ancient pow'rs of evil In confusion and retreat; Once He died, and once was buried; Now He lives forevermore, Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, Whom we worship and adore.

3. Alleluia alleluia! Glory be to God on high; Alleluia to the Savior Who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, Fount of love and sanctity! Alleluia, alleluia To the triune Majesty!  
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INVOCATION

**REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD:**

P. We know from the Word of God that we should be prepared, at any time, to give witness to the faith we believe and practice.

C. ST. PETER ENCOURAGES US, "ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU TO GIVE THE REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE. BUT DO THIS WITH GENTLENESS AND RESPECT.  
( 1 Peter 3:15)

P. Jesus said, "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven..."

C. "BUT WHOEVER DISOWNS ME BEFORE MEN, I WILL DISOWN HIM BEFORE MY FATHER IN HEAVEN." (Matthew 10:32,33)

P. St. Paul wrote, "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity..."

C. LET YOUR CONVERSATION BE ALWAYS FULL OF GRACE...SO THAT YOU MAY KNOW HOW TO ANSWER EVERYONE." (Colossians 4:6)

P. Jesus promised that he would send his Spirit to us, so that we will be equipped to bear witness to Him. "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father...He will testify about me...."

C. WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, COMES, HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH." (John 15:26, 16:13)

P. Come, Holy Spirit, come!  
C. AND LEAD US INTO THE TRUTH. AMEN.

**CONFESSION OF SIN:**

P. O God our Father, since You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son,  
C. WE CONFESS WITH SHAME OUR SLOWNESS TO LEARN OF HIM, OUR FAILURE TO FOLLOW HIM, OUR RELUCTANCE TO BEAR THE CROSS.

P. Forgive us the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of your Word,  
C. OUR HESITATING WITNESS FOR CHRIST, OUR EVASION OF RESPONSIBILITY IN YOUR SERVICE, AND OUR IMPERFECT STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR GIFTS.

P. Forgive us that so little of Your love has reached others through us,  
C. THAT WE HAVE BEEN THOUGHTLESS IN OUR JUDGMENTS, HASTY IN OUR CONDEMNATION, GRUDGING IN OUR FORGIVENESS, SLOW TO SEEK RECONCILIATION, AND UNWILLING TO HELP OUR NEIGHBORS AS WE OUGHT.

P. O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

C. WASH US FROM OUR INIQUITY AND CLEANSE US FROM OUR SIN.

P. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.  
C. HAVE MERCY ON US AND FORGIVE US, O LORD. AMEN.

## ABSOLUTION

### SONG: *“I Believe in Jesus” (Jn 6:69)*

1. I believe in Jesus, I believe He is the Son of God; I believe He died and rose again,  
I believe He paid for us all. And I believe He’s here now, standing in our midst;  
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.
2. I believe in You, Lord, I believe You are the Son of God; I believe You died and rose again,  
I believe You paid for us all. And I believe that You’re here now, standing in our midst;  
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.

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### FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a,22-32

14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:…22 “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. 25 David said about him: ”‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’ 29 “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. 30 But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

### EPISTLE READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### RESPONSE: *(Sung, LW 164)*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

### GOSPEL READING: John 20:19-31

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” 24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.” 26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” 28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” 30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

### HYMN: #210 *“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”*

### SERMON: 1 Peter 2:2,3 **“Have You Grown Up?”**

*(A sermon outline with the Scripture reading is printed in the bulletin to aid your meditation on God’s Word)*

### THE OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP

*(Please sign fellowship book at end of pew)*

### CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION:

- P. In the rite of confirmation we individually affirm our Baptism and the faith created in us there in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Let us then rejoice in our Baptisms.  
What is Baptism?

C. BAPTISM IS NOT JUST PLAIN WATER, BUT IT IS THE WATER INCLUDED IN GOD'S COMMAND AND COMBINED WITH GOD'S WORD.

P. Which is that Word of God?

C. CHRIST OUR LORD SAYS IN THE LAST CHAPTER OF MATTHEW; "GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT."

P. What benefits does Baptism give?

C. IT WORKS FORGIVENESS OF SINS, RESCUES FROM DEATH AND THE DEVIL, AND GIVES ETERNAL SALVATION TO ALL WHO *BELIEVE* THIS, AS THE PROMISES OF GOD DECLARE.

P. Which are these promises of God?

C. CHRIST OUR LORD SAYS IN THE LAST CHAPTER OF MARK, "WHOEVER BELIEVES AND IS BAPTIZED WILL BE SAVED, BUT WHOEVER DOES NOT BELIEVE WILL BE CONDEMNED."

#### RITE OF CONFIRMATION:

*(As the confirmands are called up individually, the parents and sponsors are welcome to join them at the altar.)*

#### SONG: "The Potter's Hand"

*Verse:* Beautiful Lord, wonderful Savior, I know for sure, All of my days are held in Your hand, crafted into Your perfect plan. You gently call me into Your presence, guiding me by Your Holy Spirit; Teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life through Your eyes. I'm captured by Your holy calling, set me apart; I know You're drawing Me to Yourself. Lead me, Lord, I pray.

*Chorus:* Take me, mold me, use me, fill me; I give my life to the Potter's hand.  
Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me; I give my life to the Potter's hand.

*(repeat chorus)*

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#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

P. Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the children whom you have called to yourself through Baptism.

C. THAT THEY WOULD REMAIN TRUSTING IN YOU FOR FORGIVENESS AND ETERNAL SALVATION.

P. We pray for Christian parents;

C. THAT THEY WOULD SERVE AS YOUR FAITHFUL SERVANTS RAISING THEIR CHILDREN IN YOU AS THEIR LORD.

P. We pray for our confirmands;

C. THAT THEIR CONFESSION OF FAITH IN CHRIST, FREELY AND PUBLICLY GIVEN, MAY BE MORE THAN JUST EMPTY WORDS AND WOULD CONTINUE TO SHAPE AND CHANGE THEIR LIVES.

P. Equip them Lord Jesus with Your Holy Spirit,

C. THAT THEY MAY ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT FOR THE HOPE THAT IS IN THEM THROUGH YOU AS THEIR SAVIOR AND GOD.

P. We pray that You would give to each Christian the continued blessings of Your Spirit and that you would help us live in accordance with the truth of Your Holy Word.

C. MAKE US BOLD TO WITNESS TO THE TRUE FAITH THAT IS WRITTEN IN YOUR WORD. UNITE YOUR PEOPLE THAT WE MIGHT WITH ONE VOICE TESTIFY TO YOU, JESUS, AS REDEEMER OF THE WORLD.

P. We pray also for others in need, especially...*(special requests)*...Lord, in your mercy,

C. HEAR OUR PRAYER AND GRANT US THESE REQUESTS MADE IN JESUS' NAME.  
AMEN.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER: *(Spoken together)*

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.

#### BLESSING: (From Jude 24-25)

P. To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy -

C. TO THE ONLY GOD OUR SAVIOR BE GLORY, MAJESTY, POWER AND AUTHORITY,

P. Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

C. BEFORE ALL AGES, NOW AND FOREVERMORE! AMEN.

#### HYMN: #201 "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won" vs. 1,3,5

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

#### PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF MAY:

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 Service

