# **L**(aetare

The Sunday of the Feeding of the Five Thousand "Christ Suffered the Opposition of the World"



But Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted."

John 6:11

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 239 Frank Street Council Bluffs, IA 51503 March 30, 2025

#### Welcome

Welcome to all members and visitors! We are pleased to have you with us as we receive Christ's gifts and as we respond in thanks and praise. Guests, please sign the guest register in the narthex. If you need assistance, please ask one of the ushers. Prayers of preparation for worship can be found on the inside front cover of the hymnal.

The Lord's Supper is offered every Sunday of the month. St. Paul's observes the biblical practice of closed communion. Members of sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are encouraged to commune with us. We ask visitors who are not members of the LCMS to speak with one of our pastors if you are interested in learning more about our church and communion practices. Those not communing with us at this service are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms to indicate this desire.

# **Those Serving Us**

Preacher/Liturgist: Rev. James Tews

Pianists: Rev. Timothy Frank Saxophone: Carter Shockey

Kantors: Johnson Family Kantorei (8:00 a.m.); Bambi Heckerman (10:45 a.m.)

# **The Word In Music**

Prelude: "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" – Setting by James Marriott; "Jesus,

Refuge of the Wary" - Setting by Ellen Coman

Offering: "Jesus, Priceless Treasure" - Setting by Elizabeth Grimpo

Distribution: "Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared" – Setting by Valerie Floeter

(10:45a.m.)

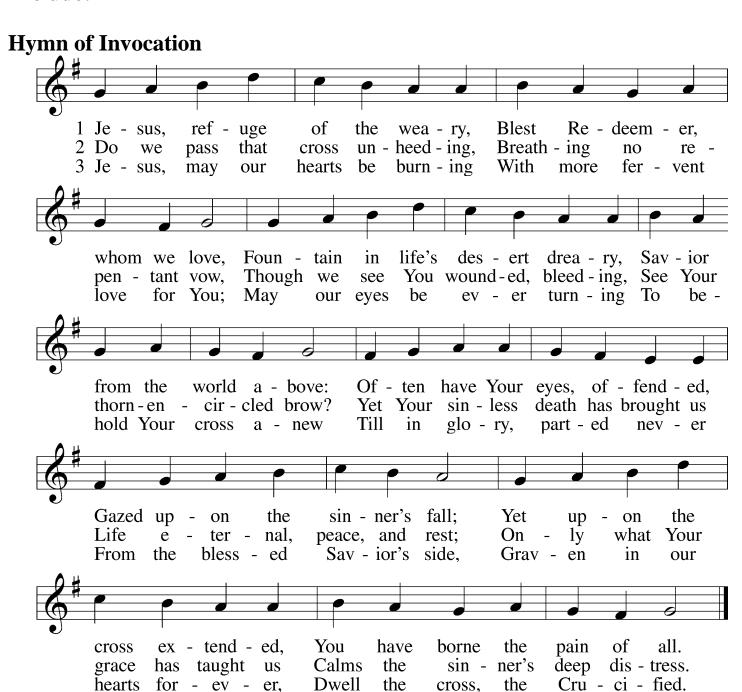
Postlude: "Guide Me, O thou Great Redeemer" - Setting by James Marriott

**Kantor Notes**: Laetare (The Fourth Sunday in Lent) derives its name from the first word of the Introit: "**Rejoice** with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her." Like Gaudete Sunday in Advent, Laetare Sunday involves a "lightening" of the fast. Just as Jesus offers refreshment to the 5,000 in the wilderness, so Jesus offers us refreshment as He calls us to look to Him in faith. He is the "Refuge of the Weary" (LSB 423) and our "Priceless Treasure" (LSB 743)! Listen for this theme of refreshment and joy in Jesus within our readings and hymns today.

**Gradual (10:45 a.m.):** O Saviour of the world, Who by thy Cross and precious Blood hath redeemed us, Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee O Lord. Amen.

**Hymn of the Season:** "On My Heart Imprint Your Image" LSB 422 **Divine Service Setting 3** 

#### **Prelude:**



#### **Invocation**

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **Exhortation**

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

#### **Confession of Sins**

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

## **Absolution**

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 

  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,\* all you who | love her;

that you may nurse and be | satisfied\* from her con- | soling breast.

I was glad when they | said to me,\*
"Let us go to the house | of the LORD!"

Our feet have been | standing\* within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!

Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!\*

May they be secure who | love you!

For my brothers and com- | panions' sake\* I will say, "Peace be with- | in you!"

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,\*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,\* all you who | love her;

that you may nurse and be | satisfied\* from her con- | soling breast.

Kyrie LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

# Salutation and Collect of the Day

- Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **C** Amen.

Old Testament

Isaiah 49:8–13

8Thus says the LORD:

"In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages,

9saving to the prisoners, "Come out,"

9saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.'

They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture;

10they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them,

for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them.

<sup>11</sup>And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up.

<sup>12</sup>Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene."

<sup>13</sup>Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!

for the LORD has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual "We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died" (LSB 429) 8:00a.m. "O Saviour of the World" (John Goss) 10:45a.m.

Epistle Galatians 4:21–31

<sup>21</sup>Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? <sup>22</sup>For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup>But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while

the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup>Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup>Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup>But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup>For it is written,

"Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband."

<sup>28</sup>Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup>But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. <sup>30</sup>But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." <sup>31</sup>So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

**Tract** *Psalm 125:1–2, 5b* 

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,\* which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,\* from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon | Israel!

Holy Gospel John 6:1–15

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.
- **C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. <sup>5</sup>Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that

these people may eat?" <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. <sup>11</sup>Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

<sup>15</sup>Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**Nicene Creed** LSB 191

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,

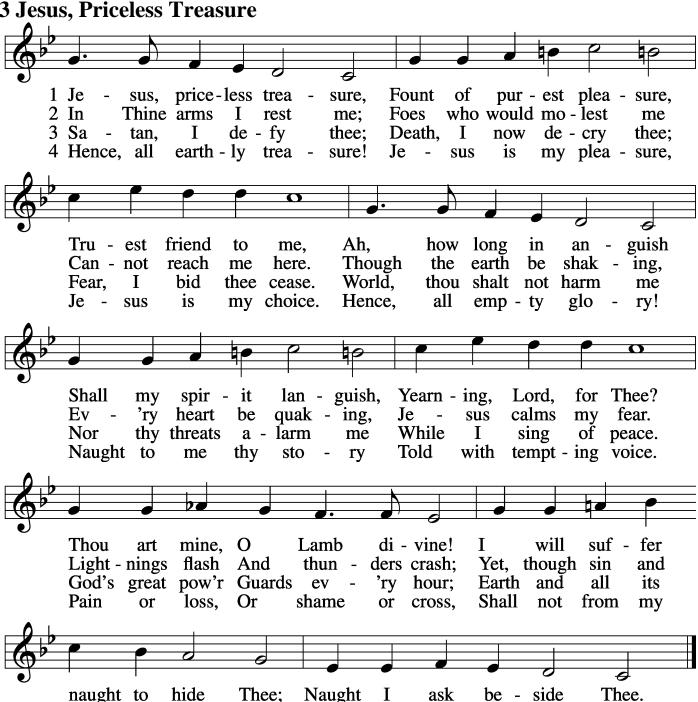
whose kingdom will have no end.

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.

#### 743 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



5 Evil world, I leave thee; Thou canst not deceive me. Thine appeal is vain. Sin that once did blind me, Get thee far behind me, Come not forth again.

depths a - dore

Sav - ior move

as - sail

me.

Him,

me

Je

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deigns

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fail

love

be - fore

me.

Him.

me.

hell

Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

For the Lord of gladness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

Sermon

"O Living Bread"

John 6:1-15

Stand

Offertory LSB 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

## **Offering**

Stand

# **Prayer of the Church**

#### Service of the Sacrament

We welcome communicant members of our sister congregations of the LCMS to join us in receiving the Lord's Supper. Other visitors are welcomed forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms to indicate this desire.

Preface LSB 194

- **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**

Sanctus LSB 195

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer LSB 196

P 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

P 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 + 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 + 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 LSB 197

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 198

- O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
  - O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
  - O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

## **Distribution**

# 435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain



# 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

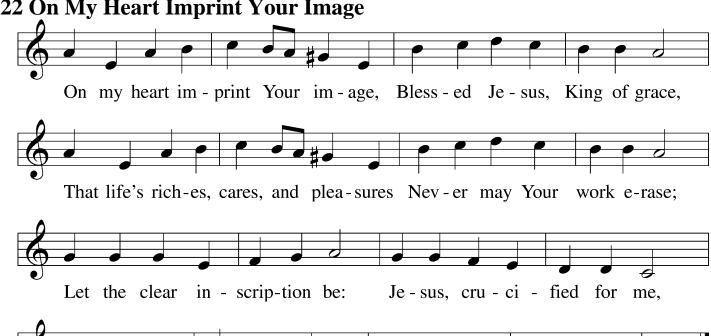


Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,
That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:
Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish.

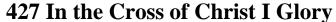
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

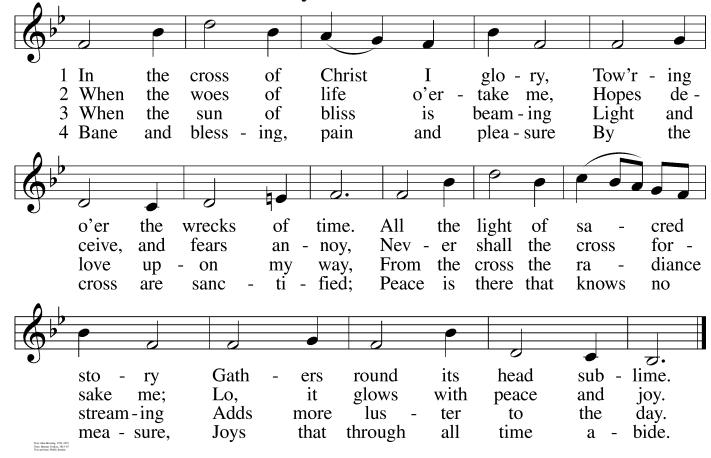
- Thou hast suffered great affliction 6 And hast borne it patiently, Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me; Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented. Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore, For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore, Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing, For Thy bleeding and Thy dying, For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

**422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image** 



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal-va





Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

**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 Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Thanksgiving** 

LSB 200

- A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
- **C** and His mercy endureth forever.

# **Post-Communion Collect**

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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 LSB 201

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus LSB 202

- **A** Bless we the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

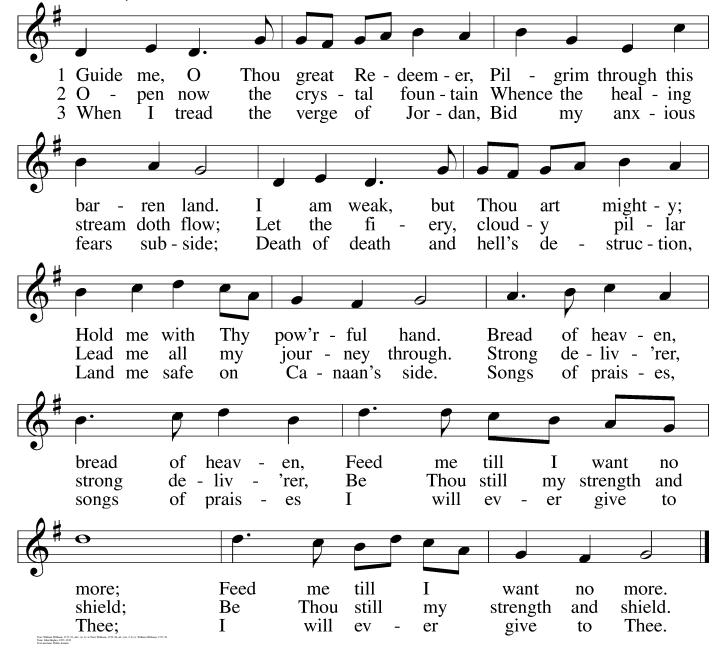
Benediction LSB 202

- 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, amen, amen.

# 918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer



## **Postlude:**

# Acknowledgments

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## **Opportunities for Growth**

This Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
	10:45 a.m.	Divine Service
	12:00 p.m.	Special Voters' Meeting
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
Wednesday	5:00-6:30 p.m.	Christ Academy
	6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service
Next Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
	10:45 a.m.	Divine Service

#### **The Congregation at Prayer**

Those ill or recovering: Dottie Jacox, Chris Circo, Mary Johannes, Jayne McIlrath, Elizabeth Bowerman, Gertrud Rossbund, Ryan Pedersen (son of Art & Julie Gardner), Trent Casey, John Shafer (father of Kelli Salin), Tina Lamason (sister of Brad White), Marge Miller, Cole (cousin of Kelli Salin), Lu Schwery (mother of Denise Krohn), Randy Falknor (cousin of Kent Seetin), Sarah and Raymond McCubbin and Jill (family members of Jeff Thomas)

Allen & Marcia Timm, and all our shut ins.

Our missionaries: Deaconess Sandra Rhein & Ms. Becky Bartelt

#### **News and Notes**

Reminder: There is a **Special Voters' Meeting** today after the 10:45am Divine Service in the Church Undercroft (Fellowship Hall), to discuss the approval of the transfer funds to cover 2024 pledge amount to District and Synod.

**Baby Shower!** Mark your calendar for a baby shower for Philly Raymond on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at 24037 195<sup>th</sup> Street, Crescent, IA 51526. RSVP to Anna Sherrill at 712-318-0003. Philly is registered at Amazon under Maxwell & Philomena Raymond.

**Bethany Lutheran Home** – St. Paul's will be hosting the Sunday afternoon worship services at Bethany during the month of **April**. Service time is 4:00pm. Volunteers will be needed to help set up, bring the residents down for

worship, and assist with the service. Volunteers should arrive about 20 - 30 minutes prior to 4:00pm.

**Bethany Bake Sale** – There will be a bake sale at Bethany Home and Bethany Heights on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00pm. Each congregation is asked to donate items. Cash donations are also welcome. More specific information will follow next Sunday and in the April newsletter.

**40 Days For Life -** is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and peaceful vigil in front of abortion businesses. If you are willing to join with others and spend one hour praying to stop abortion, please call Jo Raymond at 402-350-3221.

#### Catechism

## Apostle's Creed

Second Article: And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-322-4729

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Nathansherrill1978@gmail.com

Associate Pastor/Kantor - Rev. Timothy Frank

Cell: 712-269-3683

pastorfrank239@gmail.com

Pastors Emeriti - Rev. James Tews & Rev. Robert Lindau

Parish Administrator - Heidi Bernhards

splccboffice@splccb.org

**Church Office Hours:** 

Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. - noon

St. Paul's Early Childhood Center

1500 N. 16<sup>th</sup> St.

Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-322-3294

www.splecc.org

**Director** - Becca Heinicke becca.heinicke@splecc.org

Administrative Assistant – Glennda Hedlund

glennda.hedlund@splecc.org

**School Office Hours** 

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Music Conservatory

239 Frank St.

Council Bluffs, IA 51503

712-322-8832

Administrator - Rev. Timothy Frank

Cell: 712-269-3683

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