



St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School

7710 East State Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46815
749-5816

April 19, 2025 – 5:00pm

Rev. Dr. Paul Dancy, Transitional Senior Pastor
Rev. Adam McDowell, Associate Pastor
Rev. Nathan Widener, Associate Pastor & Director of Community of Care
Rev. James Sharp, Missionary to Puerto Rico
Tim Degen, Director of Music & Organist
Chris Brune, Principal
Barb Christian, Preschool Director

HOLY SATURDAY

April 19, 2025 – 5:00pm

PRELUDES

“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”

arr. Wilbur Held

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Carl Schalk

RINGING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

P We light this Paschal Candle tonight, symbol of the eternal light that shines forth through the merits of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, the same Jesus Christ who was in the beginning and is today. He was in Himself the beginning and the ending. His are time and eternity. His are glory and dominion forever.

C Amen.

(The Paschal Candle is lit.)

P May all the darkness of our hearts and minds be dispelled by the Light of Christ who will rise on Easter morning in glory. The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

OPENING HYMN

(Tune: “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”)

“All is O’er, the Pain, the Sorrow”

All is o’er, the pain, the sorrow, human taunts and Satan’s spite;
Death shall be despoiled tomorrow of the Prey he grasps tonight.
Yet once more, His own to save, Christ must sleep within the grave.

Fierce and deadly was the anguish on the bitter cross He bore;
How did soul and body languish till the toil of death was o’er!
But the toil, so fierce and dread, bruised and crushed the Serpent’s head.

Close and still the tomb that holds Him while in brief repose He lies;
Deep the slumber that enfolds Him, veiled awhile from mortal eyes –
Slumber such as needs must be after hard-won victory.

So this night, with voice of sadness chant the anthem soft and low;
Loftier strains of praise and gladness from tomorrow's harps shall flow:
Death and Hell at length are slain, Christ has triumphed! Christ does reign!

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord: the Christ, the Son of God, the Light of the World, has come. He is the second Adam, come to dispel the darkness brought by the first Adam. He has called us to repentance and to faith in the sacrifice He made for us that we might call upon the Father in His name. Let us then confess our sins to God, our Father:

C Merciful heavenly Father, we confess to You that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have grieved Your heart with the darkness of our sins by our own fault. We repent of our grievous faults, asking for Your forgiveness for the sake of Your only Son, and we confess our intention to amend our sinful lives.

P Our Lord said: "I am the Light of the World." He came exactly for this; that I might announce to you the full and free forgiveness of all your sins. Your sins are indeed forgiven by the merit of the blood of Christ, shed on the cross for the sins of the world. Therefore, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray together:

C **O God, creator of heaven and earth, grant that as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Daniel 6:1-24

¹It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom 120 satraps, to be throughout the whole kingdom; ²and over them three presidents, of whom Daniel was one, to whom these satraps should give account, so that the king might suffer no loss. ³Then this Daniel became distinguished above all the other presidents and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him. And the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. ⁴Then the presidents and the satraps sought to find a ground for complaint against Daniel with regard to the kingdom, but they could find no ground for complaint or any fault, because he was faithful, and no error or fault was found in him. ⁵Then these men said, "We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God." ⁶Then these presidents and satraps came by agreement to the king and said to him, "O King Darius, live forever! ⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an injunction, that whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. ⁸Now, O king, establish the injunction and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked." ⁹Therefore King Darius signed the document and injunction. ¹⁰When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber

open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. ¹¹Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and plea before his God. ¹²Then they came near and said before the king, concerning the injunction, “O king! Did you not sign an injunction, that anyone who makes petition to any god or man within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?” The king answered and said, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” ¹³Then they answered and said before the king, “Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or the injunction you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.” ¹⁴Then the king, when he heard these words, was much distressed and set his mind to deliver Daniel. And he labored till the sun went down to rescue him. ¹⁵Then these men came by agreement to the king and said to the king, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no injunction or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.” ¹⁶Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!” ¹⁷And a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no diversions were brought to him, and sleep fled from him. ¹⁹Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. ²⁰As he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish. The king declared to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?” ²¹Then Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever! ²²My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm.” ²³Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. ²⁴And the king commanded, and those men who had maliciously accused Daniel were brought and cast into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. And before they reached the bottom of the den, the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 3:17-22

¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Luke 23:50-56

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵⁰ Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, ⁵¹ who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. ⁵² This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³ Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. ⁵⁴ It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵ The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶ Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

(Tune: "I Know That My Redeemer Lives")

"Lord Jesus, Who, Our Souls to Save"

Lord Jesus, who, our souls to save, did rest and slumber in the grave,
Now grant us all in Thee to rest, and here to live as seems Thee best.

Give us the strength, the dauntless faith which thou has purchased with thy death,
And lead us to that glorious place where we shall see the Father's face.

O Lamb of God, for sinners slain, we thank Thee for that bitter pain.
Grant that Thy death for us may be our entrance into life with Thee.

SERMON

"Not a Real Cliffhanger, Part 2"

Text: Luke 23:50-56 – Pastor Adam McDowell

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP and GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS

VOLUNTARY

"Christe, Du Lamm Gottes" (from "Orgelbuchlein")

arr. J.S. Bach

OFFERTORY

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

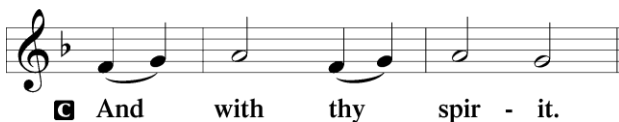
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



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.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.




C It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. On the tree of the cross You gave salvation to mankind that, whence death arose, thence life also might rise again and that He who by a tree once overcame likewise by a tree might be overcome, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the

company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS



G 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,
bless-ed is He, bless - 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.

PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, all things were made by You and all things are sustained by Your power. When the darkness of sin had overtaken us and we chose our own path, You did not abandon us but sent forth the light of hope through the prophets. In the fullness of time Your own Son, born of the Virgin and the Spirit, manifested Your promised saving Light and Life. He entered into sin's darkness on the cross and was raised up in glory to bring light and hope to all people. Gathered in His name and by His invitation, we pray You to renew the new life begun in us in our Baptism and sustain us in faithfulness to eternal life.

Giving thanks to You for all He has accomplished for us and our salvation, we beg of You to keep us amid the many and great temptations of this life. Sustain us in our trials and equip us with Your Spirit, that we may boldly live as Your children and proclaim with boldness the story of Your promise and grace. Hear us now as we call You Father and pray together as our Savior taught us:

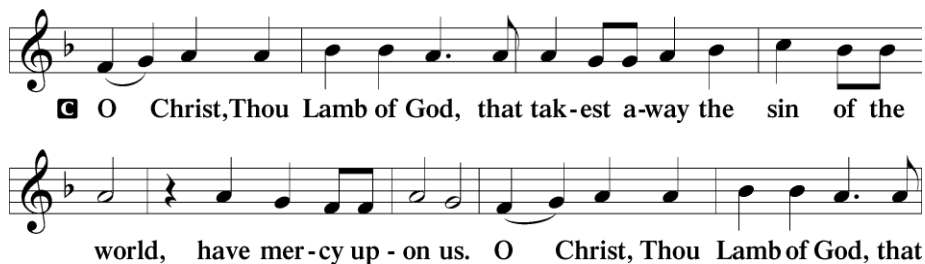
C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

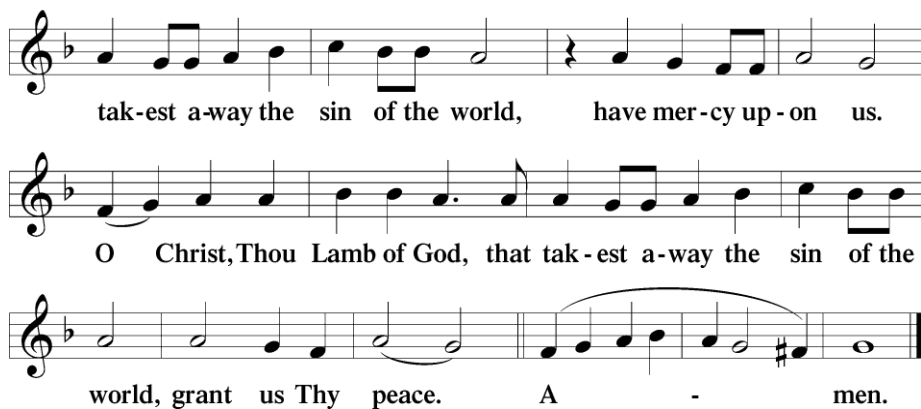
THE PEACE OF OUR LORD

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



DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS


“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

#425

“Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared”

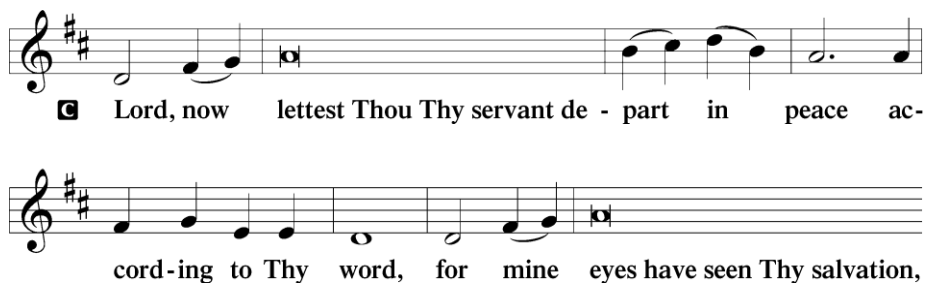
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DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  in peace.

C Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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

(Tune: "The Day of Resurrection")

"O Heavenly Choirs Be Joyful"

O heav'nly choirs be joyful, the triumph song ring out!
The King has won the vict'ry; creation raise a shout.
His light, its radiance brilliant, has banished darkness' reign;
Let all the faithful praise Him and sing the glad refrain.

Thanks be to God, the Father, and to the Paschal Lamb,
For our release from bondage to sin and all its shame.
This night has Christ arisen, creation dawns anew;
Such love beyond all telling demands our praises true.

POSTLUDE

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

arr. Hugo Gehrke