

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Holstein, IA March 22, 2026 9:00 A.M.
Fifth Sunday in Lent

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

We confess that we have misused this earth.

Forgive us Lord.

We confess that we are driven to get more of this world's goods than we need and are tempted to seek security in our possessions. We are often insensitive to the needs of those around us and unwilling to share your blessings freely with others.

We follow our own dreams instead of the Christ, and trust our own will rather than yours.

Forgive us Lord. Hear us for the sake of Jesus, your Chosen One.

Reclaim us in Christ's love, breathe into us your Holy Spirit that we may be strengthened to live as your sons and daughters. Amen.

There is good news for us: Jesus was crucified for our forgiveness and raised from death so that we can live a new life. We are God's new creation in Christ.

Glory be to God!

Opening Hymn

All Are Welcome

vs. 1-4

#641

Psalm 130

(Read Responsively)

¹ Out of the depths

I cry to you, O Lord;

² O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³ If you were to keep watch over sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared.

⁵ I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶ My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love;

with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

⁸ For the Lord shall redeem Israel

from all their sins.

Romans 8:6-11

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

John 11:1-45

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message Rev. Dr. Melanie Hauser

Hymn of the Day *Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

Refrain: My chains are gone. I've been set free, my God,
my Savior has ransomed me.

And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

Refrain (2x)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine.
Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

Chris Tomlin, John Newton, Louie Giglio, 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), CCLI License #833795

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

MEAL

Children's Offering / Offering

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

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.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Distribution

****Distribution of the Sacrament****

All who trust in Christ's word are welcome to the table of this holy supper, where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. Please tell the server if you desire grape juice as an alternative to wine, or if you require a gluten-free wafer.

The Table

I will feast at the table of the Lord. I will feast at the table of the Lord.
I won't hunger anymore at His table. (repeat)

Refrain: Come all you weary, Come and find
His yoke is easy, His burden light.
He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord.

There is peace at the table of the Lord. There is peace at the table of the Lord.
I won't worry anymore at His table.

There is healing at the table of the Lord. There is healing at the table of the Lord.
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table. **Refrain**

I know He has a place for me. Oh, what joy will fill my heart
With the saints around the mercy seat of God.

Come all you weary, Come and find
His yoke is easy, His burden light.
He is able; He will restore at the table of the Lord, at the table of the Lord.

I'm invited to the table of the Lord. I'm invited to the table of the Lord.
He says, "Come just as you are", to His table.

Tomlin, Cash, Jolley, 2014 Worship Together Music, CCLI License #833795

Prayer After Communion

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

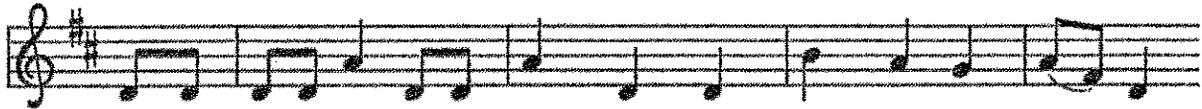
Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always.

Amen.

Closing Song

Let Us Enter In



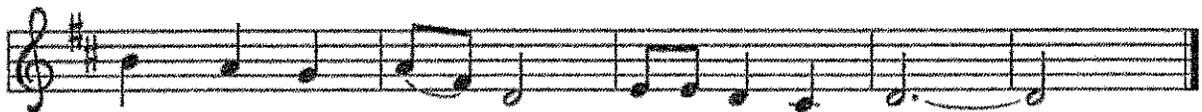
1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free - dom.
2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.
3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.



Let us en-ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.
Let us en-ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.
Let us en-ter in to the start of a hope we can share.



Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.
Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.
Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er



Heal - ing, for - giv - ing— Let us en - ter in.
Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.
sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

Text: Ray Makeover, b. 1943

Music: LET US ENTER IN, Ray Makeover

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
Pulpit Supply:	Rev. Dr. Melanie Hauser
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Vickie Heck
Deacons:	Marvin Todd and Susan Endrulat
Greeters:	Cole Norris & Lenita Nannenga
Acolytes:	Brynn Nedved and Mason Christiansen
Sound & Video:	Doug Wessling and Kreighton Krager
Coffee Hosts:	Terri & Leo Schimmer Barb Stratton

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, March 22 ~ Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Coffee and fellowship

WEDNESDAY, March 25

5:00 PM	LOGOS ~ "God's Mission"
6:15 PM	Lent Supper
7:00 PM	Lenten Evening Prayer Service

SUNDAY, March 29 ~ Palm Sunday

9:00 AM	Worship
10:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Youth Brunch