

St. Paul's Plymouth

April 15th, 2018 – Easter 3

Morning Praise

Welcome!



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
www.stpaulsplymouth.org

Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship today!

We pray that your spiritual life will be nourished through Word and Sacrament.

- † If you desire, there is a nursery in the back on the west side of the church, but please know that **your children are ALWAYS welcome** in our service no matter how much noise they make. We're happy to have them hear the Word and join us praising God with their voices!
- † Before you leave, please sign the **guest register**. It is located on the top of the stairs in the church entryway.
- † Please talk to one of the **Elders** (seated in the back of the church) if you have questions about the service or the congregation.
- † **Large print service folders** are available. Please speak to one of the Elders if this would be of assistance to you.
- † Our Sunday morning service can be heard on KWBE 1450AM (94.7FM) and viewed live and archived at www.stpaulsplymouth.org. Please share this information with those who are not able to attend worship.
- † **Prayers before Worship** can be found in *Christian Worship – A Lutheran Hymnal*, pages 10-11.

Broadcast Sponsor

Our broadcast this morning is sponsored with several gifts from a number of faithful listeners.

Focus for Our Worship

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. The Bible time and time again uses this beautiful imagery that Jesus is our Good Shepherd. In the weeks before Easter, we saw what He did for His sheep who love to wander. He endured pain and punishment, suffering and ridicule, even death on the cross. He made the ultimate sacrifice for us, His precious sheep.

As we continue in this Easter season to focus on our Risen Lord, we see clearly that He is risen to be the Shepherd of His Church.

Morning Praise

Christian Worship – page 45

OPENING HYMN “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” (CW 374)

M In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

M O Lord, open my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.

M Hasten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND HOLY ABSOLUTION

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

All Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed You in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

M The Lord is risen: Let us worship Him.

COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv-ing, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are in his hand; the heights of the hills are al-so his. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak-er. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M O Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Good Shepherd who laid down Your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of Your life-giving Word that we may abide in Your Father's house forevermore; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



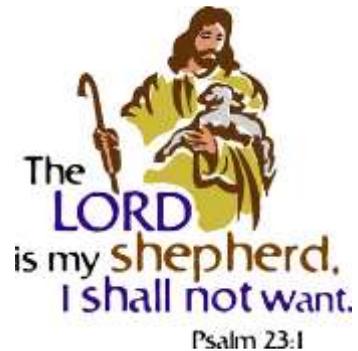
THE WORD

FIRST LESSON – Ezekiel 34:11-16

Here the Messiah promises to be the Good Shepherd of the church, bringing all His sheep into the fold of His church where He feeds and protects them with eternal devotion.

¹¹ “For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

PSALM OF THE DAY – Psalm 23, which can be found on page 72 in the front portion the hymnal. This psalm will also serve as our sermon text today.



SECOND LESSON – I Peter 2:21-25

The Apostle Peter describes the self-sacrificing love of the Risen Lord who is the Divine Shepherd of the church.

²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” ²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Alleluia. Christ is risen!

C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

M Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' Alleluia! (Luke 15:4-6)

LADIES CHOIR "Consider the Lilies" by Natalie Sleeth

HOLY GOSPEL – John 10:11-16

Our Good Shepherd shares these comforting words with us...

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord!

HYMN OF THE DAY "The Lord's My Shepherd; I'll Not Want" (CW 360)

SERMON

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside quiet waters,

he restores my soul.

He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of



heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



pro-phets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo-cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa-ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
 You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.
 We believe that you will come to be our judge.
 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of
 your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

OFFERING

LORD HAVE MERCY

M In the morning, O Lord, I call to You; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (CW 436)

M O Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we give You thanks that You tend Your flock like a Shepherd...that You gather Your lambs in Your arms and carry us close to Your heart. (Isaiah 40:11)

C  **Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep,
 Who Your Father's flock does keep,
 Safe we wake and safe we sleep,
 Guarded still by You.**

M Send Your Holy Spirit to us through Your Word and Sacraments, that we live as sheep who are confident in Your promise of life eternal and certain of the wisdom of following wherever You lead. (John 10:27-29)

C ♪ **In Your promise firm we stand;
None can take us from Your hand.
Speak – we hear – at Your command,
We will follow You.**

M We ask that the Good Shepherd of the sheep who laid down His life and took it up again equip us with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him. (Hebrews 13:20-21)

C ♪ **By Your blood our souls were bought;
By Your life salvation wrought;
By Your light our feet are taught,
Lord, to follow You.**

M We ask You to give us the spirit of Your selfless love, which searches for more sheep and gathers the scattered, rescuing them and bringing them out from the grasp of Satan. Allow us to know the joy known in heaven as You use us as Your instruments to bring even one sinner to repentance. (Ezekiel 34:11,12; Luke 15:7)

C ♪ **Father, draw us to Your Son;
We with joy will follow on
Till the work of grace is done,
There to live with You.**

M Lead us to hold less closely the treasures of this world, and to anticipate more eagerly the glories of heaven, where we will behold and adore the Lamb at the center of the throne as our Shepherd as He wipes away every tear from our eyes. (Revelation 7:17)

C ♪ **We, in robes of glory dressed,
Join th' assembly of the blest,
Gathered to eternal rest
In the fold with You.**

LORD'S PRAYER

A 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.

HYMN "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (CW 375)

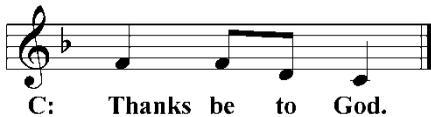
PRAYER FOR GRACE

M O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with Your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in Your sight, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

M Let us praise the Lord.



BLESSING

M The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



CLOSING HYMN "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"
(CW 432)





NOTES AND NEWS

Pastor Fred Berger
C-402-239-4509 O-402-656-3003
pastorberger@gmail.com

Principal Andrew Danner
C-402-433-5349 O-402-656-4465
danner@stpaulsplymouth.org

Organist: Angie Zulauf
Teen Usher: Ethan Paxton
Greeters: Tom & Tresa Worster
Childcare: Jaime Danner, Deb Weichel
Broadcast Announcers: Don Wurm, Barry Weichel

This Week, By God’s Grace (April 15th – 22nd)

Today	Bible Class, Sunday School	9:00am
	Worship	10:00am
	Quarterly Meeting	11:00am
	NELHS Musical	3:00pm
Monday	Faculty Meeting	7:15am
	Hue Thao Funeral in Kansas City	10:00am
Tuesday	Faculty Devotion	7:15am
	School Chapel	8:30am
	LES Catechism	9:00am
	Growing in Hope Bible Information Class	7:00-8:00pm
Wednesday	PSI Class	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday	Faculty Devotion	7:15pm
	LES Catechism	8:30am
	Ladies Aid	2:30pm
Friday	Teachers’ Conference – Here – NO SCHOOL	
Sunday	Sunday School & Bible Class	9:00am
	Worship Service Concert with Charles Bonow (Greeters: Ryan & Dawn Meyer) (Childcare: Steph Scheele, Andrea Weichel)	10:00am

Dates Changed–Please Note: The general church cleaning dates have been changed. We will not be cleaning this week, but have rescheduled for the following dates/times next week: Wednesday, April 25th (2-5pm), Thursday, April 26th (3-7pm), and Friday, April 27th (3-7pm). Please see the “Church Cleaning” announcement for additional details. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Today – Kailey Weichel

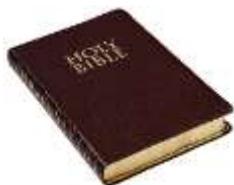
Tuesday – Elizabeth Meyer

Wednesday – Andrea Bice, Shirley Imes, Wendi Strein

Friday – Susie Weichel

Saturday- Weston Warnke, M/M Rich Newhouse

Service Concert – Next Sunday during our morning worship service, organist Charles Bonow will present his new worship service concert entitled “Here We Stand” here in church. This service will begin with a devotion based on the Word of God, followed by Scripture readings entwined with organ solos and congregational singing of well-loved hymns of faith. Please plan to attend. Charles Bonow, a former parish pastor in our Wisconsin Synod, now has as his ministry the presentation of his service concerts in our WELS churches each Sunday in all parts of our country. The presentation of these service concerts is Charles Bonow’s life work and the means of support for himself and his family. A freewill offering for the Bonow family will be received following the service.



Growing in Hope Bible Information Class – Our “Growing in Hope” Bible Information Class is now being offered each Tuesday evening through June 26th. The class runs from 7PM-8PM. If you would like to know more about what the Bible teaches, are considering joining our church family, or would just like a review of the basic teachings of the Christian faith, this class is for you! All materials are provided. Onsite childcare is also available. Please join us and bring a friend!!

LWMS Rally – Our circuit’s spring LWMS Rally will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Kearney on Saturday, April 28th. A presentation entitled “Rooted in Christ” will be given by Pastor Jesse Stern from Boulder, Colorado. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the front entrance for those planning to attend, along with a box for LWMS mission offerings.

Meals for Moms – We are in need of additional volunteers to help provide meals for moms after they return home from the hospital with their newborn. Please note that by signing up to help with this program, you are not committing to providing a meal every time. When we have a need for meals, Amy Weichel will send out an email asking anyone able to provide a meal to go to an online site called Meal Train and sign up for a date, along with their planned menu for that date. For additional information or to volunteer, please call Amy at 402-230-0126 or email her at amygrace83@hotmail.com. Please consider using your time and talents to help with this special ministry here at St. Paul’s.

Spring Church Cleaning – The annual spring cleaning (cleaning those areas that are not done on a weekly basis) of our church building is coming up next week, **April 25-27** (please note that it is *next* week, not this week). All those whose last names begin with the letters **A-M** are asked to come and clean at one of the scheduled times. In this group, we really need some younger workers since many of our long-time cleaners have attained an age that makes it difficult for them to help. We have tried to accommodate everyone. We have later hours on Thursday and Friday; and there are afternoon hours if that works better for you. Please look at the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex and indicate when you will come. There is also a place to sign up at the bottom of the sheet if none of the designated times work for you. Cleaning supplies are provided. Contact Judy at 656-3055 if you have any questions. Thank you for your help!



Track Meet – Our school is hosting its annual grade school track meet on Saturday, April 28, at the Tri-County track. The last two years have been rained out so we are praying for good weather this year . **We need lots of volunteers to run this meet—about 50 different people!!!** Please consider volunteering even if you don't have children attending St. Paul's currently. Prior experience and track knowledge is not mandatory. There is a large sign-up poster on the school bulletin board in the church entryway. Talk to Tom Worster or any of the teachers if you have any questions.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- April 22nd – Charles Bonow Worship Service Concert
- April 29th – LES Children sing at Zion, Clatonia
- May 6th – Confirmation
- May 20th – Last day of Sunday school and Bible class until fall session begins
- June 3rd – Chris Dreisbach Concert
- June 4th–6th – District Convention at NELHS
- June 11th–15th – Vacation Bible School
- July 22nd – Mission Festival

QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING AGENDA

April 15th, 2018 - 11:00AM

(Please bring your Quarterly Report along to the meeting)

1. Opening Prayer by Pastor Berger
2. Secretary's Minutes – in Quarterly Report
3. Treasurer's Report
 - Housing Fund - \$1,265 – this fund was put in place many years ago to help a called worker with a down payment on a house
 - Option 1 – Eliminate fund as it does not contain enough money for its purpose
 - Option 2 – Work on building this fund up so it can serve its purpose
4. New Voting Members
5. Elders
 - Membership Changes
 - Release as Communicant Member: Melissa Bruna per her request
 - Accept transfer of membership from Holy Trinity (WELS), Des Moines, Washington: Geron, Jennifer, and Hannah Brown
 - Upcoming Special Services: April 22nd – WELS Organist Charles Bonow;
June 3rd – WELS musician Chris Dreisbach
 - Mission Festival – Sunday, July 22nd – Missionary Luke Wolfgramm
6. Board of Education
 - Principal's Report
 - Treasurer's Report
7. Trustees
 - 2018 Building Fund Items
 - Steeple Repair scheduled with Chappell Roofing
 - Balcony Ceiling Repair
 - Rock for Parking Lot was delivered
 - Roof Tech fixed roof on addition
 - Trees were trimmed around the St. Paul's Campus
 - Ceilings in addition and pastor's office will be fixed soon
8. Stewardship Committee Report
 - International Youth Rally – Chaperones Nick Schroeder and Tracie Hueske
– 8 youth participants
9. Broadcast Committee Report
10. Endowment Committee Report
11. Cemetery Committee Report
12. NELHS Report

13. Pastor Berger's Report

- Holy Week/Easter Services
- Shut-ins
- Baptisms
- Weddings
- Growing in Hope Class update
- Confirmation – May 6th
- Installation Service – Sunday, June 10th at 4PM in Stanton, NE for Pastor Jason Schulz
- Last Sunday School/Bible Class – May 20th
- Sunday School Teacher Wrap up – May 20th after worship
- Utah Mission Trip
- District Mission Board – Mission Submission, Dallas Christ, Hue Tao

14. Other Business

- \$2,500 from Ruth Meyer Estate – council recommends to place into Church Endowment Fund
- \$980.92 interest from the Church Endowment – proposed by Endowment Committee and Church Council to use for evangelism materials (Bibles, fliers, etc)
- Designate Lenten Meal Donations
 - Lent 1 – Thrivent card used – designated to VBS \$222
 - Lent 2 – No Thrivent card used - \$34 to designate
 - Lent 3 – Thrivent card used – designated to Missions \$257
 - Lent 4 – No Thrivent card used –\$241 to designate
 - Lent 5 – Thrivent card used - designated to Evangelism \$184
 - Lent 6 – No Thrivent card used - \$167 to designate
- Easter Breakfast – Thrivent card used – designated to Teen League Fund \$262
 - Total to Designate: \$442 (Lent 2 + Lent 4 + Lent 6)
 - Suggestion: \$100 to Ladies Aid (paper products); \$100 to Youth Rally; and \$242 for Large Catechisms for Men's Bible Breakfast
- Next Church Council Meeting – Thursday, May 31st at 8PM

15. Close with the singing of the Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n -
ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!

The image shows a musical score for the Doxology. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran Church, feel free to speak with Pastor Fred Berger after the service or anytime during the week! (call/text 402-239-4509; email pastorberger@gmail.com) If you think you might be interested in joining the St. Paul's church family, Pastor would be more than happy to take you through some Bible studies at whatever time or location is most convenient for you to learn more about what we teach.

If you would like more information about St. Paul's Lutheran School, feel free to speak with Mr. Andrew Danner! (call/text 402-433-5349; email danner@stpaulsplymouth.org) He would love to give you a tour of the school and answer any questions you might have about the excellent Christ-centered education we offer students of our church and community.

Please contact us! We would love to serve you!

Church Office 402-656-3003 **School Office** 402-656-4465
Pastor Fred Berger 402-239-4509
Church Secretary Mrs. Deb Wells 402-853-2035
Mrs. Tracie Hueske (Preschool) 402-230-0607
Mrs. Becky Briney (K-1) 269-358-2998
Mrs. Rachel Schroeder (2-3) 402-239-1206
Mrs. Beckie Bekemeyer (4-5) 402-239-7667
Principal Andrew Danner (6-8) 402-433-5349
Mrs. Jaime Danner (Principal Release Teacher) 920-344-2149
Mrs. Lisa Scheele (Paraeducator) 360-620-9201

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

In an ever-changing world, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to build Christ's kingdom in people's hearts with the un-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

106 East Highway 4
Plymouth, NE 68424
402-656-3003
www.stpaulsplymouth.org

