

## Great Thanksgiving

The peace of 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 thanks and praise.**

Communion

pages 496 and 497

Prayer After Communion

**God of mercy, God of grace, we bless and praise you for nourishing us with this Easter feast of redemption. Fill us with your Spirit, and make us living signs of your love; through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.**

Community Sharing

Offering

Hymn Of Response    **We Give Thee But Thine Own**    360

Hymn Of Dismissal    **That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright**    176

Dismissal With Blessing

Go in the peace and power of the Risen Christ, to love and serve God and your neighbor.

**We are sent in the power of Christ's resurrection. Alleluia!**

Next Week's Readings: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

Preaching This Week: Matt Gemmer

Next Week: Georgann Kurtz-Shaw

Celebrant: Ruth Huston

Acolytes: Cole Wayman, Emma Nord

## St. Paul's Free Methodist Church Second Sunday of Easter

Call To Worship

Lift Your Glad Voices

Insert

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn Of Praise

Jesus, Stand Among Us

Insert

Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*First Lesson*

*Acts 4:32-35*

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*Psalm*

*Psalm 133*

**How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.**

**Hymn****How Good It Is****URW 335****Second Lesson****1 John 1:1-2:2**

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**R:** The word of the Lord.**C:** Thanks be to God.**Gospel Acclamation****Halle, Halle, Hallelujah****URW 370****Gospel****John 20:19-31****R:** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.**C:** Glory to you, O Lord.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to

them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**R:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.**Sermon****Apostles’ Creed****Prayers of the People****The Peace**

By dying, Christ destroyed our death;

In rising, he restores our life;

In giving us his Spirit, he grants us peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us take a few moments to greet each other with signs of peace and reconciliation.

**Doxology**

# Jesus, stand among us 25

WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN 65. 65

1 Je - sus, stand a - mong us in your ris - en pow'r.  
2 Breathe the Ho - ly Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry heart.

Let this time of wor - ship be a hal - lowed hour.  
Bid the fears and sor - rows from each soul de - part.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, stand among us'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The first system includes two verses of lyrics. The second system includes the concluding lines of the hymn. The music is written in a 2/2 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

Text: William Pennefather, *Original Hymns and Thoughts in Verse*, 1873  
Music: Friedrich Filitz, *Vierstimmiges Choralbuch*, 1847

## SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us for **Sunday School** at **10a** for stimulating discussion, led by **Matt Zahniser**, focusing on the **lectionary psalm of the day**.

## WELCOMING OUR CHILDREN TO GODLY PLAY

Our **preschool and elementary-age (3+)** children gather for **Godly Play Sundays** at **9:45a** at the **pew outside the Godly Play room door**. Here they will be creatively and imaginatively engaged with the church's stories, rituals and rites, preparing for the worship and life of the church.

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preteens and teens meet in the **mural room and the Teen SS room** with **Nate Wieland** and **Kat Westbrook**, respectively.

## ST. PAUL'S PRAYS WITHOUT CEASING

Morning Prayer continues **Monday-Friday 7:30-8:00a** in the Sanctuary, with prayer, Scripture and Communion.

## POTLUCK TODAY!

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for an **all-church potluck** following worship; **all are welcome**, whether bringing a dish to share or not.

## NEXT SEXTON FOR ST. PAUL'S

Interested in serving as the St Paul's sexton for the upcoming **summer and/or academic year?** Please contact Pastor Ben at [ben.wayman@greenville.edu](mailto:ben.wayman@greenville.edu) **ASAP**.

## MONTHLY MISSION POTLUCK

You're invited to the monthly mission meeting/potluck at the **Greenville FMC** (1367 IL Route 140) this **Wed., April 11 (12:00 potluck, 12:30 for the program only)**. **Richard Huston** will speak on the GU ministry at the local federal correctional facility.

## COME-AND-GO WEDDING SHOWER APRIL 15

All are warmly invited to celebrate **Claire Sattler and Dylan Antila** at their **come-and-go wedding shower** **NEXT Sunday, Apr. 15th** from **3-5p** in the **St. Paul's Fellowship Hall**. As your time permits, please bring a dish to share and stay for a **celebratory potluck beginning at 5:00!** The couple is registered at **Target and Amazon**.

## 5K RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER FOR AGAPE SCHOLARS

Come out to **Patriot's Park** on **April 21** to support **street children in Malawi** via the outreach of **Agape Scholars Int'l**. The run begins at **8a**, the walk at **8:15a**. **Registration before Tues, Apr. 10th is \$10, after is \$15**. Email [GSGA@greenville.edu](mailto:GSGA@greenville.edu) with questions; register online at: <https://form.jotform.com/80626644490157>  
**GODLY PLAY TRAINING OPTIONS**

If you'd enjoy spending an hour Sunday mornings **sharing the stories of God and the Church's traditions with our children**, you might belong on our **Godly Play team!** **Godly Play Training (required)** will be offered this spring/summer in **Danville, KY (Apr. 19-21—registration closes Apr. 16)**, **Nashville, TN (Apr. 27-29)**, **Chicago (May 4-6)**, **Dayton, OH (Aug 2-4)**, and (closest of all) **Bloomington, IN (Aug. 24-26)**. **St. Paul's pays all costs—**training, transportation, lodging, and meals. Please contact **Georgann Kurtz-Shaw** ([georgann.kurtz-shaw@greenville.edu](mailto:georgann.kurtz-shaw@greenville.edu) or Pastor Ben ([ben.wayman@greenville.edu](mailto:ben.wayman@greenville.edu) for more information.

## MEMO

To: St. Paul's  
From: Dave Holden, Treasurer  
Subject: 2018 Budget Preparation

[Posted on the St. Paul's bulletin board near the front door you will find a hard copy of this memo, including a multi-page] breakdown of our spending from 2016 and 2017, according to our Aplos accounting system. We are still updating the figures and making sure money is assigned to the correct accounts so there are, no doubt, more adjustments to be made. The two main challenges in getting the numbers accurate are studying spending appearing on our checking statements in January and February and whether they belong to previous or current year spending. Additionally, we now auto or e-pay a number of bills, including payroll, world missions contributions and pastor retirement. These charges appear on our checking statements without a lot of detail as to which exact line item they belong to.

Here is some "bullet point" or highlight thinking to consider that we discussed at [our recent] BOA meeting:

- Our **giving in 2017** was approximately **\$103,000**. The past two years have seen giving **drop about \$10,000-\$15,000** from 2014-15 years when we had giving in the \$110,000-\$120,000 range.
- Our **budget is set for about \$115,000**. This includes home and world missions giving of \$10,000 for each area, based on giving of \$100,000 and fulfilling the society policy of donating 20% of giving to missions.
- Our checking as of ... 2/16/2018 is \$20,052.67. Savings is \$401.98. Last year on 1/31/2017, our checking balance was \$36,629. So we need to watch our spending and giving closely as we proceed in 2018.
- If giving trends back towards \$115,000, great. However, if it stays in the \$100,000 range we will need to adjust either salaries or missions giving or another part(s) of the budget.
- If the society wants to do any major improvements to the church or property, we will need to make a special offering or project plan to fund it.

## 275 Lift your glad voices

RESURRECTION 11 11 11 11 (Irregular)

1 Lift your glad voic - es in tri - umph on high,  
2 He burst from the fet - ters of dark - ness that bound him,  
3 Glo - ry to God, in full an - thems of joy;  
4 But Je - sus hath cheered the dark val - ley of sor - row,

for Je - sus hath ris - en, and we shall not die.  
re - splend - ent in glo - ry, to live and to save.  
the be - ing he gave us, death can - not de - stroy.  
and bade us, im - mor - tal, to heav - en as - cend.

Vain were the ter - rors that gath - ered a - round him,  
Loud was the cho - rus of an - gels on high,  
Sad were the life we may part with to - mor - row,  
Lift then your voic - es in tri - umph on high,

and short the do - min - ion of death and the grave.  
the Sav - ior hath ris - en, and we shall not die.  
if tears were our birth - right, and death were our end.  
for Je - sus hath ri - sen, and we shall not die.