

5433 Madison
Road
Cincinnati, OH 45227

271-4147 - Church
271-4152 - Fax
www.stpaulcinci.org

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m.
Sunday School
10:30 a.m.

Rev. Timothy Beck
Pastor

Deaconess Sara Smith
Human Care

Stephanie Harrison
Office Administrator

Winston Vaughn
Organist

Leah Broman
Bell Choir

Nathan Broman
President

Al Pleasant
Vice President

Bobbie Conour
Secretary

John Miller
Financial Secretary

Harold Smith
Financial Treasurer

Ken Wichman
Board of Elders - Chair

Emily Wichman
Board Of Education - Chair

Emily Wichman
Sunday School Super.

Rich Baumgart
Trustee - Chair

Dave Luppert
Mission Board - Chair

Denise Brown
Women's Ministries - Chair

Kris Beck
College Outreach

The Epistle

He

Is

Risen

He

Is

Risen

Indeed



Alleluia



Dates to Remember

May 5- May 6 th	Rummage Sale	Friday 9-4:00 & Saturday 9-Noon
Saturday, May 6 th	Work Day	
Saturday, May 13 th	Women's Ministries	10:00 ^{am}
Saturday, May 20 th	Men's Group	9:00-10:30

from **Pastor Beck** 

The peace of the Lord be with you.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. Christ's peace is a gift, an objective reality and a divine promise. It's not first and foremost a feeling, although indeed we may feel great contentment due to this peace. It does not depend on our mental state, although this peace gives us a sound mind. It does not depend on our subjective nature, even if we are the subject of peace.

We have peace with God because Jesus Christ was crucified for sinners, is risen and ascended. This peace became ours when we heard it announced and the Holy Spirit worked faith. In fact, because of this peace, the Father and the Son send the Holy Spirit who testifies of Christ, applying peace to the Church. And the Church proclaims our Lord's out-of-this-world-peace to the world, by baptizing and teaching all that He commanded. And He sustains us in His peace unto the end of the age, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed and bestowed peace on the frightened, battered, and broken disciples shortly after His resurrection. The disciples received His personal, powerful, and perfect peace and after Pentecost, lived lives of peace, proclaiming forgiveness of sins to all nations. We need that same message as we face our own sinfulness, the wiles of the devil, and persecution by the world.

For Christ's peace sustains us pilgrims, exiles awaiting our heavenly home. His peace assures us that we have already entered a glorious eternity. The peace flowing from Christ's justifying blood washes us in immortality, as promised in baptism. There the word of peace inseparably united us to our Lord's death

and resurrection (Romans 6). We entered a glory that is incomprehensible and a joy inexpressible.

Until that day the Church is called to proclaim the peace of God. We proclaim because faith comes by hearing, and we enter Christ's peace through faith. This defines the chief task of the Church. The greatest expression of love for neighbor is to speak the words of peace. This is what the Church does, even while she serves as Christ's hands and feet in countless ways for the good of others.

What a joy to bring your neighbor to hear God's word, or encourage them to baptize their children, or explain to them the gift of the Lord's Supper. This speaking can be hard work. It is not always received. The body of Christ may bear a cross like her Lord's. When a cross is put upon you, remember Christ's peace. Jesus rose and proclaimed a lasting peace. He is seated at the Father's right hand. And you by faith reign with him, being seated with Him in the heavenly places (Col. 3:1-4). You were given His peace. You live in His peace. And you shall be filled with His peace.

In Christ,
Pastor Tim Beck

Elder Board

He is Risen!
He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

Grace, Mercy, and Peace be to you from God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

It is the Easter season. A time of celebration and renewal. The days are getting longer and warmer, the grass and flowers are growing again, and we see new life all around us. It is a time to also remember the new life we have in Christ. *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”* - 1 Peter 1:3

Our hope is alive! We have a hope in Jesus Christ as the first born of the dead that we too will be raised like him into eternal life. It is a living hope, not a *“I hope it doesn’t rain tomorrow”* but a hope that is sure and unshakeable. *Jesus has done it and declared “It is finished”* – John 19:30.

There is nothing else to do, it is finished, completed, done! The Devil is defeated, Death is defeated, Sin is defeated. We have come through the Lenten season confessing and repenting our sins. Jesus comes triumphantly into Jerusalem but his triumphant march was misunderstood at the time. He did not come to conquer human institutions or overthrow oppressive foreign invaders. He came to win the only war that matters, the war for our souls. To save us from an eternity of damnation and bring us into His Kingdom which has no end.

To be sure, we still need to repent. We will even hear it again this month from our readings in Acts where Peter is asked the question *“Brothers, what shall we do”* Acts 2:36 and Peter tells them *“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”* – Acts 2:38

Repentance does not go away with Lent. We still need to confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed every week. We still need to hear that forgiveness declared by God’s called servant. We need to hear his Word being preached. We need to nourish ourselves at his table with His very Body and Blood.

I look forward to confessing, hearing, and tasting the blessings that God has provided to us each week during the Devine Service. I hope to see you there.

May the grace of God that surpasses all understanding keep you in the one true faith unto life everlasting.

Amen!

Harold Smith



Board of Elders

Ken Wickman (Chair) , Mark Brown, John List, Russ Moody, Al Pleasant, Gates Smith, and Harold Smith

Congregation President

Actually, It Still Takes Money to Run the Church!

He is risen! He is risen, indeed, alleluia!

Hi everyone! I trust you had a wonderful Easter celebration with your families. The Easter service was wonderful and inspiring, and I just wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who works behind the scenes to ensure we have a wonderful service, not only on Easter, but every Sunday! It is easy to take things for granted, but a lot has to happen in order to appropriately glorify our Lord in worship! Yes, it is all about Jesus and his sacrifice for us, which was motivated by God’s love for each and every one of us. We now can have peace knowing the ultimate sacrifice has been made, and we will be restored to God’s kingdom. Christ’s resurrection is truly a reason for celebration!

As we reflect on our blessings, I wanted to advise the congregation that we have noticed a marked decrease in giving among the membership. We were blessed to end the 2016 year ahead of our estimated shortfall, still in the red a bit, but better than expected; however, we are off to a slow start for the beginning of the year, and it is becoming a trend. This is the case even with more services during Lent and Holy week. We were wondering if the sale of the property to Medpace and the additional revenue from the gym rental and Medpace parking would impact our giving, thinking that members may have a false sense of security by thinking we had more cash on hand and were “good for a while”. Actually, this is not the case, as we have the same operating needs as before the property sale and additional revenue streams. The staff, trustees, and leaders of the various church groups have done an excellent job keeping expenses below budget, so the issue is not on the spending side. We have had to draw against some of the savings funds set aside to

guarantee the deaconess position, which is not our preference.

In the past, the congregation has responded when we have advised of our needs due to a shortfall situation. When we have not communicated our needs and have approached a crisis stage, congregational members have come forth asking why we didn’t speak up sooner. So, we are choosing the former option of notifying everyone with transparent communication. The Lord loves a cheerful giver, and St. Paul has supported God’s work here for almost 150 years!

We are blessed as a congregation and hope that the blessings from our Lord are evident in your life. Share with others the joy in your heart and about the blessings from the Lord by telling others and inviting them to service, a fellowship event, or another church activity.

May God continue to bless you!

In His name,

Nathan Bromen
President



Pastor, Mackenzie Mercer, AJ Bromen

from the Office

St Paul youtube channel

Make sure to check our new youtube channel, which contains the Bachfest music: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBsFANVqFkDP-ndCOumS27A>

Jeffrey Gladish

Work
Day
May
6th



Easter Brunch



Mercy Care Fund **Needs Your Support**

To Donate

To donate to the **Mercy Care Fund** place a check in the offering plate with the words "Mercy Care Fund" in the memo line. See Deaconess Sara with any questions.

This is the fund that Pastor and Deaconess Sara use to extend mercy care to our neighbors. Thanks to everyone for your support in caring for those in need.

Those at Home

- Clark Anstaett
- Florence Beaber
- Betty Crawford
- Hilde Crossley
- Mary Ann Haupt
- Janet Hicks
- Larry Leudke
- Ruby McCudden
- Kay Packer
- Preston Lee
- Doris Rathel
- Kathy Rook
- Elsie Roosa
- Pat Stoecker



Sign up in Narthex

'The Lutheran Hour' - WLW/700 AM - Sunday at 7:00 am



The Identity of A Christian Woman

Biblical Foundations

Let's start in the beginning. Marriage is established by God. In marriage, a man and woman become a new creation; they become one flesh, with a new identity.

The marriage relationship is one of intimate communion. Adam's relationship to the animals was external because they were created outside of him. His relationship to Eve was an internal relationship. She was created from a part of him. She was made of the same flesh as Adam. Man was not created to be alone. He was created to be in communion and fellowship with woman and with God.

The marriage relationship is also one of sacrificial love. The man relates to his wife by sacrificing himself for her. She in response is submissive to her husband. Their relationship is one of mutual submission and harmony. They were created to complement each other, to complete each other.

The marriage of man and woman mirrors the relationship of Christ and His bride, the church. Woman was created from man's side. The church is created from Jesus side. We are the church through baptism and communion, water and blood. We see this water and blood flowing from Jesus' side on the cross, redeeming us and making us His bride.

In creation, man is the mediator of life. God's life is communicated into the woman through man. We see the man that Christ will become in this. It is through Jesus and his sacrifice that His bride has life.

Jesus must be man to take a bride. Man lays down his life, sacrifices himself for woman. She receives from him with thanksgiving. The man is the giver and the woman is the receiver. Christ gives Himself to His bride and she receives.

Jesus is the second Adam. He becomes a man to do what the first Adam failed to do. After Eve ate of the forbidden fruit, Adam should have taken her to God and then laid down his own life for her. Christ does what Adam failed to do. Jesus lays down His life for His bride.

Woman as an Image for the Church

We see woman as an image for the church. In woman's identity as virgin, we see the image of the church waiting for her Bridegroom.

In woman's identity as wife, we see the image of Christ's bride, the church. Just as God creates woman from man, He creates the church from Christ. The woman receives from the man and life is created, just as eternal life is created through the church receiving from God.

In the identity of mother, we see the gift of life. In motherhood, through pain and suffering, woman gives life. In Jesus pain and suffering on the cross, He gives eternal life.

Because women are naturally weaker, a woman is an image of power made perfect in weakness, an example of the Gospel, Christ and the Resurrection. This is how the women martyrs, as icons of the church, are seen. In Christ, we see the power of God and the weakness of human flesh. When Jesus was crucified, under the weakness of human flesh we see the power of God in His resurrection. It is in and through weakness that God, in all of His power, defeats the devil.



Woman's Role in the Church

We relate to the brothers and sisters of our church in the mercy of Christ. We relate to the lost in the mercy of Christ.

We proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ among our women, teaching and guiding in God's Word. We are called to serve in our congregation, supporting our pastor and church body in our ministry. We serve each other, the St. Paul congregation and our community.

Society sees the poor, sick, elderly and dying as a burden, as a problem that needs to be fixed. We relate to them in mercy. On the cross, we see Jesus in human weakness and suffering. A Christian woman sees Christ in the weak of our society and shows the love and mercy of Christ to them. We serve body and soul. The mercy we show is Christ's own mercy. We communicate to them that they are loved by God.

Diakonia

The church communicates the gospel of Christ to the world through diakonia, service in mercy.

There are two dimensions of the gospel. Leiturgia is our relation to God and communion with Christ. Diakonia is mercy and love for others, our relation to the world. Diakonia flows from leiturgia. They are inseparable. Therefore, diakonia cannot be separate from the Gospel of Christ. Christ's diakonia, what He mercifully did for us on the cross is the Gospel of Christ. It is Christ's sacrificial love that lives in us and serves others in mercy.

Diakonia is essential to the gospel of Christ, because the essence of the gospel is diakonia. It is this mercy of Christ that we share when we serve. Where Christ's church is, there will be His diakonia.

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

Saturday
May 20th
9:00^{am} to 10:30^{am}



join us

coffee, donuts and conversations.

For information contact Gates Smith at 513-315-5722 (call or text), or to G88smith@mac.com, or church mailbox or even in person to Gates.

**All St Paul men,
and friends are welcome.**



Women's Ministries

Saturday May 13

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES PROGRAM



“You’re Such a Doll!”

Unique, Yet Part of the Body of Christ

“For I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”

Psalm 139:14

10 am until Noon ~ Lunch provided

**REMINDER TO ALL WOMEN ATTENDING!
BRING AN EARLY CHILDHOOD PICTURE OF YOURSELF.**



Gigantic Rummage Sale

St. Paul Lutheran Church

5433 Madison Rd.

(one block E. Redbank Exwy.)

Friday May 5 9 – 4:00

Saturday May 6 9 – 12 noon

**Clothing * Appliances * Tools * Furniture *
Books * Jewelry * Linens * Pots ‘n Pans
Toys * And More**

>>>>>UNBEATABLE PRICES <<<<<<

Women's Ministries

Denise Brown - Chair, - Sally Helton Vice-Chair, Kris Beck- Secretary, Suson Moody - Treasurer

Outreach Groups

As we zoom toward summertime, our Outreach Group efforts are wrapping up their plans. Here is what continues to be done:

Witness:

Sara Smith

- ♥ Bach Fest was a success. There were about 85 people in attendance and many of them stayed after to enjoy the reception. I would say about half of those attending were not members of St. Paul.
- ♥ We will participate in the Madisonville Street Fest this summer.

Technology:

Emily Wichman

- 🔗 The calendar is up, and we are working to get the office staff trained on its use.
- 🔗 Jeff made the church a YouTube channel and posted videos from Bach Fest. He's encouraging everyone to subscribe and "like" our videos in order to raise our rankings in search results. Here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBsfANVqFkDP-ndCOumS27A>



Fellowship:

Leah Bromen

- 👤 "The Luther Movie" was enjoyed by many. It was an interesting docu-drama sharing some new and insightful aspects of the life of Martin Luther.
- 👤 Movie night with an ice cream social will have happened on 4/26, by the time you read this. The movie is "Amazing Grace" a story about William Wilberforce and the abolitionist movement in Britain. In a future Epistle I'll share an update!

Please connect with Sandy, Sara, Denise, Emily or Leah to share your ideas for any outreach efforts. There is still plenty we can do!

He is risen! He is risen indeed!
Alleluia!!!
Leah



April 16, 2017

Seminarian

Dear friends,

It has been two months since the last time I wrote to you. I apologize for that. I thank you for being ever constant in your support, even though I am not always so in writing to you.

Life at the Seminary has been busy. I am taking some courses that require a great amount of work. Truth be told, health has not been great this year, and has made time management harder. Besides regular school work, I keep doing weekly institutional hours at a rehab center/nursing home in town. My friend Joe McCalley and I use these hours, first, to visit individually with some people with whom we have already established a relationship, and later in the week to meet them again for small-group Bible study. Joe McCalley has been a great friend since the very beginning. We met in the first day of Seminary for both of us, in 2015. I have been blessed with many friends in the Seminary that became very close and dear to my heart. Joe, however, is my buddy, my companion, the man of my utmost trust, and also my wheels. Since I don't have a car in the U.S., he is always ready to run some errands with me off campus when I need. We also schedule our grocery shopping and hair cut together. Recently, he sat by my side while I was fighting to breath and wondering if I would see yet another day or not. We did not know what was going on, it turned out it was a viral infection in my lungs. He is a great guy. I won't ever be grateful enough for all he does.

God has blessed me also in my fieldwork church, Zion, Garrett. It is such a great church, with such great people, and such a great pastor. They give me so much love, for which I, a foreigner, won't ever be grateful enough. Holy Week was beautiful at our church. Intense, hard-working, but every minute was worth the time. Today, Easter Sunday, was a glorious day at church, beginning before the sun rise. Afterwards, I enjoyed Easter dinner with Dr. Arthur A. Just and his family. He also has become a good friend of mine. I met his two sons, the older turned today 32 years old. My dad today turned 54. Once in a while, my dad's birthday falls on Easter Sunday. So used to be the case of my great grandma's birthday, my second mom, who passed away in 2014 at the lucid age of 97. Easter became for me also a memorial day for her. At the table, this afternoon, all of us made a joyful toast for my dad, Dr. Just proposed. My dad will be glad to see the photograph.

The Schepeler's in Missouri have always provided for me in every way they can. They are my family as much as my own. And you, friends at St. Paul, could not be more steady and committed in your care and support. I won't ever be grateful enough for you too. God lets me lack no thing through you and all the people above and more.

Keep me in your prayers that God would help me get through the next six weeks. Times of illness this year have piled up work for the University of Lisbon I must excel so that I honor those who rely on me.

Happy Easter! Christ is risen! All sorrow will be turned into joy.

With love,

Miguel Barcelos



St Paul Members with the Reformation float at the
**Red's Findley Market
Opening Day Parade**

(pictures thanks to Jeff Gladish)

