

THE END OF LENT: THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

The twilight of Lent finds its climactic darkness at the foot of Golgotha. The daylight suddenly disappears for three strange hours as the Son of Man suffers unspeakable agony at the most profound moment in time. In these six hours of crucifixion, three of which are steeped in unheard of mid-day nightfall, the Christ is punished in your stead, made to carry the sin of the world, and to suffer the consequences of a death deserved only by us sinners. In the climax of Lent, IT IS FINISHED, your sin is paid for. You are set free.

Lent finds its finish in a tomb occupied only by angels from heaven on Easter Sunday. In the triumphant resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, we, in Holy Baptism, are rescued from a well-merited sentence of eternal separation from Heaven. Christ is risen! You stand saved and ready for an indescribable entrance into heaven, richly provided for you by the once dead, but now ever-living Lord of Hosts.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. By His great mercy, we have been born anew to a living hope, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power, are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Peter 1:3- 5). Indeed, the Holy Christian Church rejoices at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday with celebrative hymns of victory.

The Church on earth will become the Church Triumphant when this same crucified Lord returns in sudden victory over all evil, bringing to a close the present evil age, and opening the splendorous Day of an eternal Easter. Easter Sunday is a foretaste of your triumph to come.

As beneficiaries of the gracious love of our Father in Heaven, St. Paul Parish gathers in holy week to worship the King who has come to save you.

We invite you to Passion Week services:

Sunday, April 14:

Palm Sunday Holy Communion at 8:45 and 11am

Thursday, April 18:

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion at 12 noon and 7pm.

Friday, April 19:

Good Friday Tre ore Service, at 12 noon to 3pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service, at 7:30 pm.

Saturday, April 20:

Easter Vigil, at 7pm

Sunday, April 21:

Easter Sunday Festival Holy Communion at 8:45 and 11am

Pastor Hamer

+John 5:24+