

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**A Community of Faith for 242 Years**

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**



*Third*  
SUNDAY  
IN  
LENT

**1185 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922**

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**Facebook:** St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

**YouTube channel:** <https://www.youtube.com/@summerHillLutheran>

**March 8, 2026**

Third Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

\*stand +kneel

## **GATHERING**

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The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**.....“Jesus Paid It All”- arranged by John T. Grape

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**C - Amen.**

P - Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out  
all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P - Gracious God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious  
God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work  
of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain  
the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C -have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P - God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**C -Amen.**

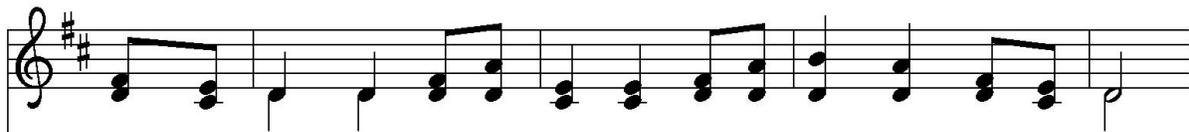
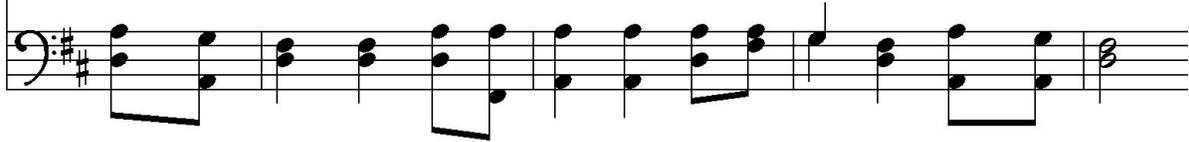
**\*GATHERING SONG.....**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (ELW 807)

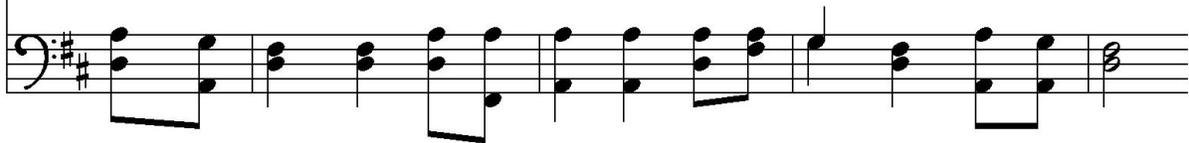
# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



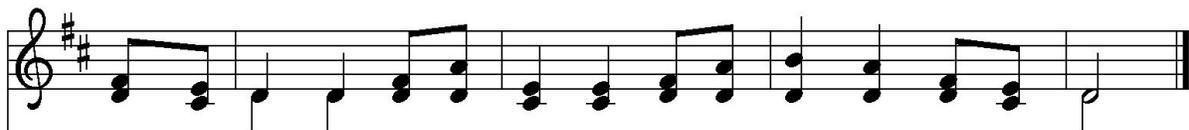
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



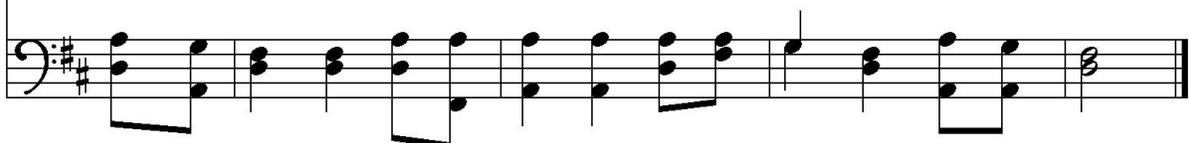
streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



## **\*GREETING**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

**P** - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** - **And also with you.**

## **\*KYRIE (ELW p. 138)**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

**P** - Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

**P** - Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** - **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **WORD**

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God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## **FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7**

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the LORD among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

P - The word of the Lord.

**C - Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 95 (Read Responsively)**

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing | to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God’s presence | with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, | are a great God,  
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, | for you made it,  
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship | and bow down,  
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker. R**

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand. Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup> **“Harden | not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors | tested me,  
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

<sup>10</sup> **Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,  
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.’**

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore | in my anger,  
They shall never come | to my rest.’ ” **R**

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11**

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

<sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through

our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

P - The word of the Lord.

**C - Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION.....**

“On My Heart Imprint Your Image” (ELW 811)

On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, king of grace,  
that life's troubles nor its pleasures ever may your work erase.

Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
is my life, my hope's foundation, all my glory and salvation!

**\*GOSPEL: John 4:5-42**

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

P - The holy gospel according to John.

**C - Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”<sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?”<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal

life.”<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!”<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.”<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”

<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another

reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.

<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

P - The gospel of the Lord.

**C - Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY...“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say” (ELW 611)**

**I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**



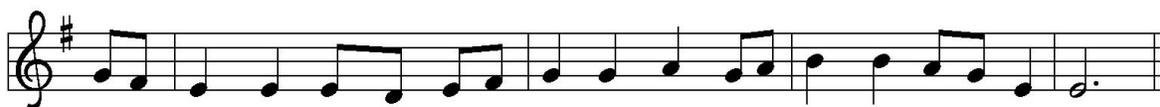
1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, “I am this dark world’s light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast.”  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live.”  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I’ll walk till trav - ’ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889  
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

**\*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 INTERCESSION**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

**P** - Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

**P** - O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint. Hear us, O God.

**C** - **Your mercy is great.**

**P** - When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought, and bring relief to places damaged by floods. Hear us, O God.

**C** - **Your mercy is great.**

**P** - When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses. Hear us, O God.

**C** - **Your mercy is great.**

**P** - When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need. Hear us, O God.

**C** - **Your mercy is great.**

**P** - When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and musical ensembles. Hear us, O God.

**C** - **Your mercy is great.**

**P** - O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Hear us, O God.

**C** - **Your mercy is great.**

**P** - Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**C - Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

**P - The peace of Christ be with you always.**

**C - And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**MEAL**

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God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**\*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING...**

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” (ELW 182)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**P - 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.**

**C - Amen.**

## **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P - The Lord be with you.

**C - And also with you.**

P - Lift up your hearts.

**C - We lift them to the Lord.**

P - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C - It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **\*PREFACE**

P - It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

## **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.*

P - Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your

people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C - Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P - O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C - Come, Holy Spirit.**

P - Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C - Come, Holy Spirit.**

P - With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C - Amen.**

## **\*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**

**P - Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.**

## **\*COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## **COMMUNION**

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

**P - The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond***

**C - Amen.**

## **\*TABLE BLESSING**

*The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds*

**P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.**

**C- Amen.**

## **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P - 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.**

**C - Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

P - Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C - Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

P - 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.

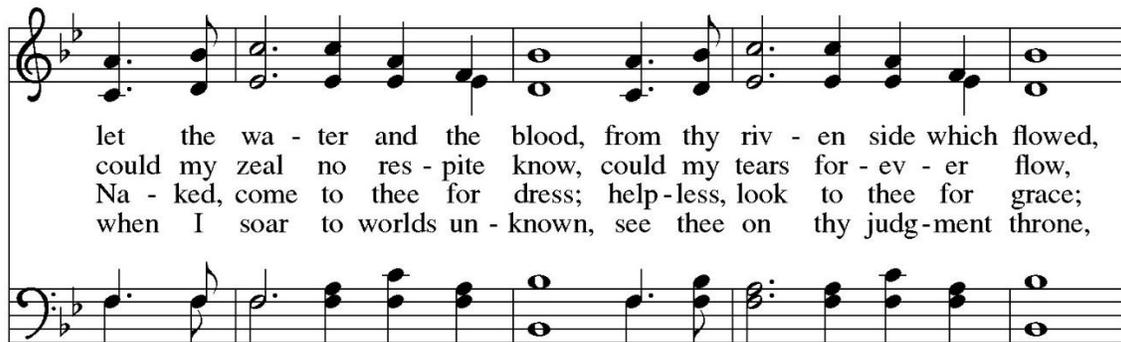
**C - Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG.....**“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” (ELW 623)

# Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778  
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

## \*DISMISSAL

P - Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C - Thanks be to God.

There is no postlude during Lent. Please use the time for the postlude for a quiet reflection of your Lenten journey.

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**Please sign the Friendship Register** in your pew. Visitors, or members with a change of address, please complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors may also include the name and address of your home church so they can be notified that you have received communion.

**Prayer Requests:** Please email or call the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. You may also give names to the person leading service prior to the start of the service.

**Birthday Card Shower:** John Strauch Sr. is going to be 95 on March 14th. Let's have a Birthday card shower for him! His address is: 545 Berne Drive, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972.

**Wednesday night Lenten worship services** continue with the theme of making change. The services are each Wednesday at 7:00pm through March 25th. We hope you will join us!

**Easter Flower Order Forms are available.** The flowers will be from Flowers Forget-Me-Not Florist, and will be \$15.50 for lilies and 12.50 for tulips. The deadline is next Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please place your orders in the offering plate or bring them to the church office. Money for the flowers may be placed in the small brown envelopes on the bulletin board and placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office. Thank you!

**The Women of the ELCA** will be collecting personal, school and baby items during the season of Lent. Check the table in the narthex for a list of all the items needed. All donations can be left on or under the table in the narthex. Please speak to Holly Maldonado for more information.

**The Saturday Spoken Worship Service** will be held this Saturday, March 14 beginning at 5pm.

**Our annual Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on March 29th at 2pm. Please sign up any children that would like to participate on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by March 22. We will also have a sign-up sheet for plastic filled egg donations. If you're able to contribute, please see the bulletin board. Egg donations can be turned in by March 22. Thanks for your support.

**A Social Ministry meeting** will be held on Sunday, March 22nd after the church service.

**Donations for College Students:** The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex from Sunday, March 22nd until Sunday, April 12th. We will be accepting donations of items to be sent to our college students, to have while they are studying for their final exams. Items to be donated include snacks, pens, pencils, or any other small appropriate items. The packages will be given

to the students, whose families have provided us with their names and addresses. We thank everyone for their continuing generosity in donating to our project.

**Summer Hill Cemetery:** Prior to March 28: Please remove any winter arrangements from the cemetery that you would like to keep. Thank you. Thank You!!

**We will celebrate Palm Sunday on March 29** at 10:30am with the Blessing of the Palms. There will be a Maundy Thursday service with foot washing on April 2 beginning at 7:00pm. A Good Friday service will be held on April 3 beginning at 7:00pm. A Saturday Easter Vigil will be held on April 4. It begins outside at 6:45pm and then moves inside at 7:00pm. We will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning, Sunday, April 5 during the 10:30am worship service. On Easter Sunday we will have the Cross at the front of the church again. We will have flowers available, but you are welcome to bring your own. We will put the flowers on as we come down from Communion. Let's see how beautiful it turns out this year!!!

**We're trying something brand new** – we'll soon be livestreaming our worship services on our very own YouTube channel: @summerHillLutheran!!! No need to worry about missing a thing — once we launch, we'll share the livestream link on Facebook every week. You'll still be able to chat, comment, and worship together live just like always. Our website now features a direct link to our YouTube channel, where you can already find recorded services beginning in February. So head on over, click Like, hit Subscribe, and ring that little bell 🔔 to be notified when livestreaming begins! 👉 Check us out here: <https://www.youtube.com/@summerHillLutheran>

**Altar flower and bulletin sponsorship:** There are many openings available throughout the year to sponsor the fresh altar flowers and bulletins on a Sunday morning. You can celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, etc. Sponsorships can be in honor of, or in memory of someone. There are sign-up sheets for a few months at a time on the bulletin board in the hallway. You can also call the church office and speak to Kelly to be added at any time throughout the year. The cost of altar flowers is: \$17.50 to sponsor one vase, or \$35 to sponsor both vases. The bulletins are \$10 per sponsored Sunday.

**2026 Offering Envelopes and 2025 Giving Statements:** If you have not already picked up your envelopes and/or statements, they are available on the table in the Narthex. If you do not want to receive envelopes because you are contributing online, please contact the church office.

**Women of the ELCA Meeting:** There will be a Women of the ELCA Cluster Meeting on Saturday, April 25 beginning at 9am in the pavilion. The cost is \$10 per ticket, which includes breakfast and lunch. Please speak to Holly Maldonado or Karen Curtis for more information.

**Helping Harvest donations** will take place the first weekend of every month. This organization has put food trucks in areas to help the needy in place of the closed Pottsville Soup Kitchen.

**Pastoral visits and home communions** are available at any time. Please call the church office at 570-754-7350 or Pastor Marie at 716-353-1610.

**Reminder for hospital visits:** The church is not informed by the hospital when someone is admitted. Please call the church to let us know if a pastoral visit is desired.

**Attendance March 1, 2026** – 39 in person; 271 online views, 2 shares as of March 5.

**The 2026 Weekly giving needed for budget is \$2,951.25**

**Week of Marh 1, 2026**

Current	\$2,077.00
Lenten Offering	\$25.00
Benevolence/Synod	\$10.00
Local Benevolence	\$45.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,157.25</b>

**THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026**

**Sunday, March 8 -Third Sunday in Lent**

9:15am -Sunday School

10:30am -Worship Service

**Wednesday, March 11**

7:00 PM -Wednesday Lenten Worship Service

**Thursday, March 12**

6:00 PM -Bell Choir practice

**Saturday, March 14**

5:00 PM -Spoken Worship Service

**Sunday, March 15 -Fourth Sunday in Lent**

9:15am -Sunday School

10:30am -Worship Service

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

**Monday, March 9:** Psalm 81; Genesis 24:1-27; 2 John 1:1-13

**Tuesday, March 10:** Psalm 81; Genesis 29:1-14; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

**Wednesday, March 11:** Psalm 81; Jeremiah 2:4-13; John 7:14-31, 37-39

**Thursday, March 12:** Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:10-21; Ephesians 4:25-32

**Friday, March 13:** Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:22-31; Ephesians 5:1-9

**Saturday, March 14:** Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:32-34; John 1:1-9

**Sunday March 8 - 10:30 AM**

**Greeter:** Reba Llewellyn

**Acolyte:** Lena Ferrance

**Lector:** Matthew Platt

**Usher:** Holly Maldonado  
**Communion Assistant:** Wendy Welsh  
**Counting Team:** Wendy Welsh & Sandy Wentz

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor 716-353-1610; Email: [preachymarie@gmail.com](mailto:preachymarie@gmail.com)  
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music 484-794-7902; Email: [stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com)  
Kelly Palerino, Church Secretary 570-754-7350; Email: [stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com)  
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton 570-345-1279  
Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton 570-754-7350  
Eva Waldman, Treasurer 570-754-7350  
Interpreter- Pegi Staller

Student Loan Committee email: [stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com)



**Keep in your prayers:** Richard Paxson, Irene Peiffer, Betty Freeman, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, Stephen Curtis, John & Betty Strauch, John Strauch, Jr., Greg Phillips, Jerry Heffleger, Harry Russell, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler, Tonia McKague, Robert & Joyce Zeledonis, Earl & Grace Paxson, Betty Fromm Yarnell, Wayne Brensinger, Ralph Hueske, Shawnette Keller, Brittany Gallagher, Kay & Jerome Hayes, Debbie Toro, Pete and Stacy Smulligan, Terry Tryon, Carole Wiscount, Carol Keesey, *family and friends of Linda Angstadt*

**Those serving in the military:** Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Mark Weinus, Jr., Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast

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