

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Community of Faith for 242 Years

Sunday, March 22, 2026

FIFTH



SUNDAY
in LENT

1185 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922

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March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Holy Communion

*stand +kneel

GATHERING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE.....“Come, Sweet Death (Kumm Susser Tod)” by J.S. Bach

***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.

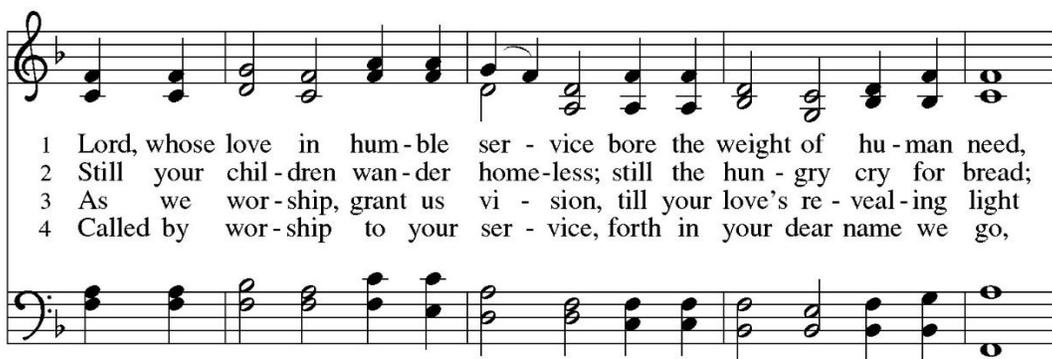
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C - Amen.

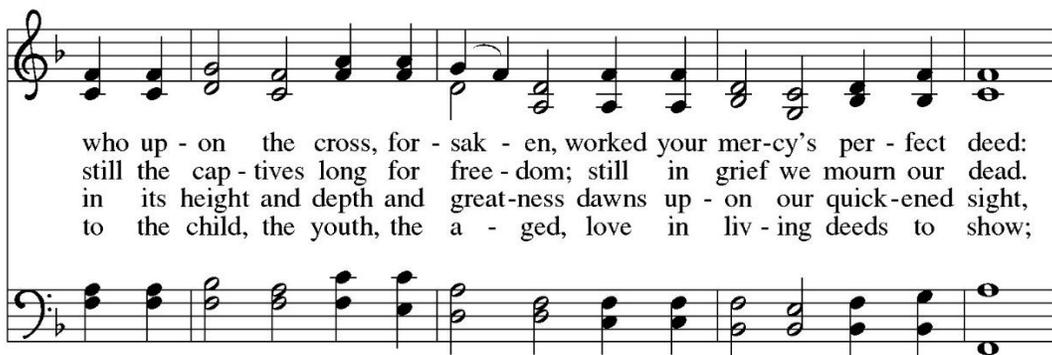
***GATHERING SONG.....**

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” (ELW 712)

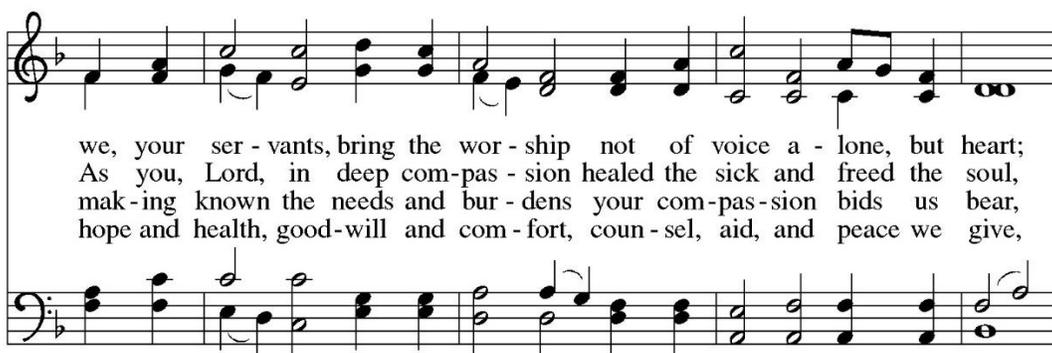
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



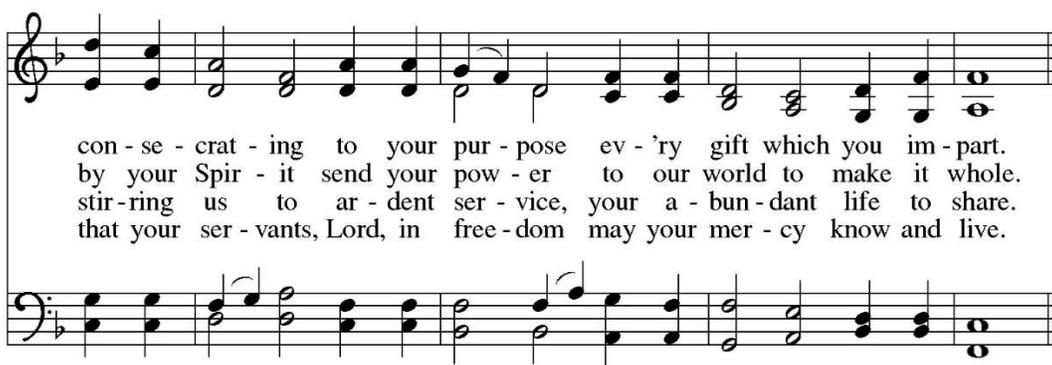
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

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***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 - Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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

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

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 130 (Read Responsively)

¹ Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

² **O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³ If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴ **Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be feared. R

⁵ I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plentiful redemption.

⁸ **For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

R - 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 11:1-45**

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

P - The holy gospel according to John.

C - Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them.” ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called

the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a

stench because he has been dead four days.”⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.”⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY.....**

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;

the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

***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 - We pray for the church. Grant life and peace to all who gather in your name. Breathe into us so that we may share your message of forgiveness, hope, and love. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for creation. Renew landscapes that have dried up, prosper the work of those who restore homes and habitats after natural disasters, and sustain places where biodiversity thrives. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for the nations. Unbind leaders trapped by fear to act boldly for justice, free all who live in places of war and violence, and guide refugees and asylum seekers to safety. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We pray for this assembly. Ready the hearts and spirits of all preparing to be baptized. Deepen our wonder at the mystery of your resurrection and life. Hear us, O God.

C - Your mercy is great.

P - We offer our thanksgiving for all people who have died in faith. Give us faith to trust in your power to redeem and save, and bring us up from our graves to life in you. 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

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

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.....“Abide with Me” (ELW 629)**

Abide with Me

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847
 Music: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

***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.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held next Sunday, March 29th at 2pm. Please sign up any children that would like to participate on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by TODAY. The deadline to donate plastic filled eggs is today. Thanks for your support.

A Social Ministry meeting will be held TODAY after the church service.

Donations for College Students: The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex today 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.

The Women of the ELCA are 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.

Our last Wednesday night Lenten worship service, with the theme of making change, will be this Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00pm. We hope you will join us!

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 next Sunday, 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!!!

Celebration of Life event for Linda Angstadt: In a community collaboration between St. Mark's UCC & St. Paul's Lutheran, they're hosting the event on Saturday, April 18. The event will begin with a small service at St. Mark's UCC Church (30 Pottsville St., Cressona) at 10am and a Celebration of Life Luncheon to follow at 11am (in the church dining area in the basement). Linda considered her church communities as 'Family'. Help is requested to include Linda's favorite foods for the luncheon. You can view the invitation on Facebook to see a list of items needed or speak to Troy Hollenbach. Please RSVP either on the Facebook event or to Troy to help ensure there's enough food for those planning to attend.

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.

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.

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 15, 2026 – 45 in person; 213 online views, 2 shares as of March 19

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

Week of March 11 - 15, 2026

Current	\$1,813.00
Lenten Offering	\$155.00
Benevolence/Synod	\$121.00
Local Benevolence	<u>\$180.50</u>
Total	\$2,269.50

THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

Sunday, March 22 -Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:15am -Sunday School

10:30am -Worship Service

- Social Ministry meeting following worship

Wednesday, March 25

7:00 PM -Wednesday Lenten Worship Service

Thursday, March 26

6:00 PM -Bell Choir practice

Sunday, March 29 -Palm/Passion Sunday

9:15am -Sunday School

10:30am -Worship Service

2:00pm -Easter Egg Hunt

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, March 23: Psalm 143; 1 Kings 17:17-24; Acts 20:7-12

Tuesday, March 24: Psalm 143; 2 Kings 4:18-37; Ephesians 2:1-10

Wednesday, March 25: Psalm 143; Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41; Matthew 22:23-33

Thursday, March 26: Psalm 31:9-16; 1 Samuel 16:11-13; Philippians 1:1-11

Friday, March 27: Psalm 31:9-16; Job 13:13-19; Philippians 1:21-30

Saturday, March 28: Psalm 31:9-16; Lamentations 3:55-66; Mark 10:32-34

Sunday March 22 - 10:30 AM

Greeter: Helen Miller

Acolyte: Tanner Gormley

Lector: Harry Schwenk

Usher: Brian Staller

Communion Assistant: Jeff Freeman

Counting Team: Jeff Freeman & Debbie Hummel

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor 716-353-1610; Email: preachymarie@gmail.com
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music 484-794-7902; Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com
Kelly Palerino, Church Secretary 570-754-7350; Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton 570-345-1279
Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton 570-754-7350
Eva Waldman, Treasurer 570-754-7350
Student Loan Committee email: 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

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

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

