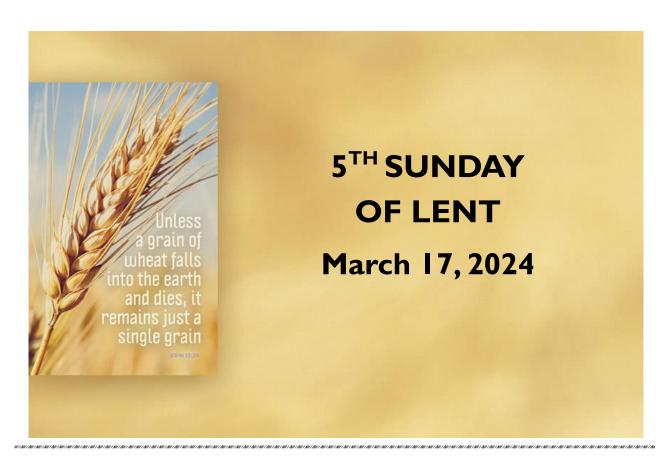
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 127 YORK STREET, HANOVER, PA



Rev. Katrina Holland, Intentional Interim Pastor Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries Lori Rebling, Director of Hand Bells Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's

Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family Church Office: 717-637-5941

Email: <u>stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net</u>
Website: <u>www.stpaulsyorkst.org</u>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

If you are seeking a faith community, exploring faith, desire to be a part of our ministries, or have questions; please feel free to speak with the pastor.

Our Purpose:

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously.

Guiding Principles:

As instruments of God's love, when you see us at our best you will see us:

- -Generously stewarding God's gifts of resources, time, and talents
- -Serving as God's hands & feet in ministries & missions of outreach to all
- -**Providing** for the care of God's people, both physically and spiritually
- -Growing in Faith through worship, study, and discernment
- -Praising God through music, word, and service
- -Welcoming all people into fellowship with God

For the Season of Lent we are using liturgies from the ELW– Setting V.

All liturgies are printed within this bulletin.

Worship texts are from "The Seeds of Joy" Lent 2024

P: Pastor L: Lay Reader A: Assisting Minister

C: Congregation responses are in bold

*Stand as you are able

If you are communing, please be sure to fill out a communion record card, for our church records, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION + 5th Sunday of Lent +

March 17, 2024

INTRODUCTION

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS Call To Confession

P People of God,

the Merciful One already knows everything we confess. By naming our sins and hearing words of forgiveness, we are drawn deeper into relationship with God and one another. Let's bring before God what we have done wrong and what we've failed to do, trusting that we will receive the joy of being forgiven.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Prayer of Confession

P God of abundant goodness,

We have hurt those we love, those far from us, ourselves, and your creation by what we do and by what we neglect. We cling to disappointments, judgments, and failures and refuse to enjoy what you give. We are too content when injustice, violence, and hardship plague our neighbors. We ignore the gift of your presence in times both tragic and triumphant. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we have failed to do. Pour out on us the joy of your presence and heal what we have harmed.

Assurance of Forgiveness

- P Friends, receive these joyful words: You are entirely and completely forgiven for all of your sins. You are entirely and completely welcomed as God's beloved child. You are released to live out God's love in a world that needs such joy.
- C Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

My Song Is Love Unknown



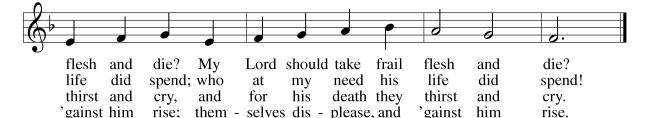
- 1 My song is love un known, my Sav ior's love to me,
- 2 He came from his blest throne, sal va tion to be stow;
- 3 Some-times they strew his way and his sweet prais-es sing;
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love the love - less shown, that they might love - ly to be. men made strange, and longed-for Christ would know. but none the sound-ing re all the day ho - san - nas their King. to made the He lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh. who am I. that for sake my Lord should take frail my oh, my friend, my friend his But. in deed, who my need at Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet them - selves dis - please, and they at these

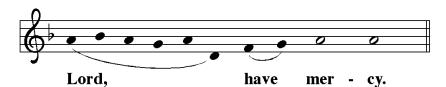


*GREETING

- 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.

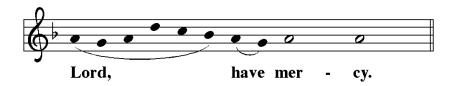






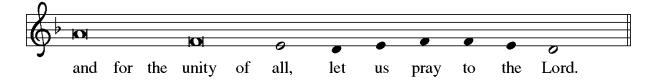


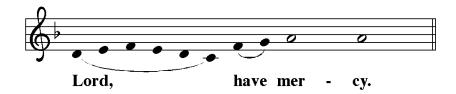
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.





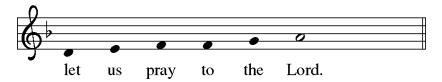
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

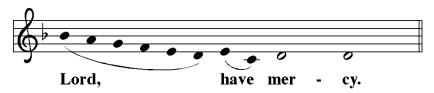






For this ho-ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,









*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Let us pray...

Holy Voice, your call resonates in the depth of our being, urging us toward places where others need help. Give us the courage to say *yes* to you today. Pour joy into the places where our gifts meet your invitation.

Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

- L ³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.
- C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 51:1-12 read responsively

- A ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.
- A ³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.
- C ⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
- A ⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.
- C ⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.
- A ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- C ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- A ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.
- C ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
- A ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spir it from me.
- C ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

SECOND READING Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

L ⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.





*GOSPEL John 12:20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

- P The Holy Gospel according to John 12:20-33
- Glory to you, O Lord.

 20Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

 21They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." 22Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into

the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. ²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

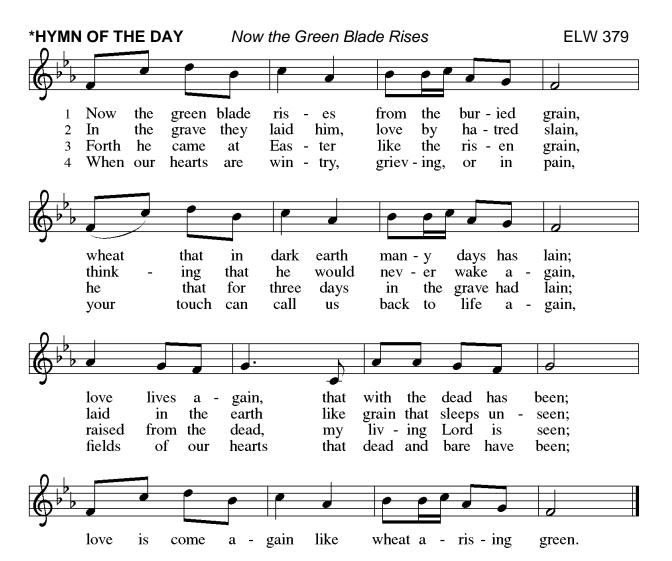
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON





*APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us affirm our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty.

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.*

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 THE PEOPLE

A God of mercy and grace, you are present. You are within each person here and you are among us as your gathered people. Trusting in your presence, your promises, and your joy, even when we cannot perceive them, we bring to you our gratitude for all you have done, and the burdens that weigh on our hearts. We pray for creation.

Thank you for its beauty and bounty and for the ways it reminds us of your presence. Guide the work of those who advocate for the wellness of your wondrous creation, and help us to better tend and keep it. We pray for all habitats, creatures, and peoples harmed by natural disasters. God of unending joy,

C answer us.

We pray for the nations and their leaders.

Thank you for cooperation among world leaders and for the ways people work together for the wellbeing of everyone.

We pray for places that know violence, famine, and economic hardship. Pour out your spirit of wisdom on all who govern, that they will care for the most vulnerable and work for the good of those they vowed to serve.

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for peace throughout the earth.

Thank you for the gift of peace. We pray that you send peace with power into our world, our neighborhoods, our hearts, and our homes. Bring an end to gun violence. Stop cycles of domestic abuse. Give peace to every nation. God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for those who are vulnerable.

Thank you for giving us gifts to share with others. Bring justice to anyone who has been used or abused. Feed those who are hungry for food or for companionship. House those who need shelter. Protect those who live in fear. Work through our hands and hearts to provide for them.

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for the church.

Thank you for the goodness we know when we gather as your people, for the gifts of community, shared ministry, and the chance to pray for and with one another. We thank you for the work of the church around the world and for the ways in which the church is at work close to home. Renew us in the promises of baptism and draw us into closer relationships with other people of faith.

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for healing and wholeness.

Thank you for gifts of healing and recovery. We pray for all those known to us in need of healing and wholeness...

God of unending joy,

answer us.

God of abundant life, you bring a quiet, constant joy to our most trying times. Remind us of your goodness in grief and your presence in pain.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord 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.

THE MEAL

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Were You There

Heritage Choir

There are a number of ways of making your offerings to God during this time. One is to place your offering in our offering plates in front of the pews or to give online at https://stpaulsyorkst.org/give. If you prefer not to give online, you may of course mail a check to St. Paul's. If you are not able to give monetarily during this time, know that your prayers and praise are a pleasing offering to God. If you are able to give a little more during this time, please consider doing so as a way of supporting your fellow disciples who are not able to.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P God of mercy and grace,

you give us so much: our days, our loved ones, our passions and talents, the food we eat, the homes we know, a place to worship.

God, you pour out an abundance of goodness. Receive the gifts we offer back to you today. Bless them and bless us, that we will give generously, love boldly, and share widely, our offering reflecting your joyful gift.

C Amen.

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P God is with you.
- C And also with you.

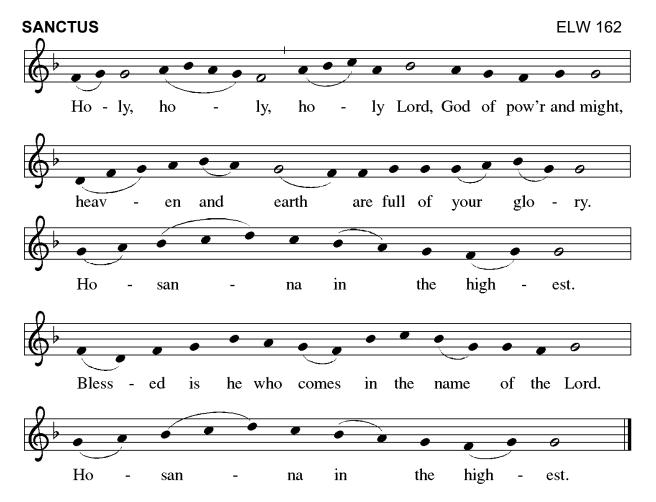
Rejoice with full hearts.

We offer them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God, there is no time, no place where you are not present, and there is no time, no place where we should not practice the joy of praising you: even here, even now, in our ordinary lives. As we give thanks, we join the choir of our ancestors and our heirs and all God's angels as they time their breath to the rhythm of joy and sing of heaven despite the world.



P God, our ancestors knew the long road toward joy. Noah saw your rainbow after a devastating flood. Sarah and Abraham found hope for their future in a covenant promise. Moses cradled your law in his arms and the Israelites found wilderness life where they should have died. The prophets read your faithfulness traced indelibly on their hearts. Your love sent us Jesus and his persistent, irrational joy: dripping with the Jordan's baptismal flood, teaching in the crowd's beating heart, tossing the tables of empire and profit, falling like a seed into warm dark soil as he offered his life for us all.

On the last night of his life, as evening fell, Jesus sat down to dinner with his friends. He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it, and passed it around the table for everyone to eat, saying, This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

When the meal had ended, the shadows closing in, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and invited everyone 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.

In the heart of fear and pain, God plants the seed of our joy:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Send your Spirit upon this bread and cup, Christ's body and blood, the food that gives us the strength to persist until joy appears. Send your Spirit upon us and fortify us to be your body, too, a wellspring of hope for a world in need.

All glory, power, and honor are yours, God of brilliant resurrection and quiet joy, today and every day.

*LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...
- 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.

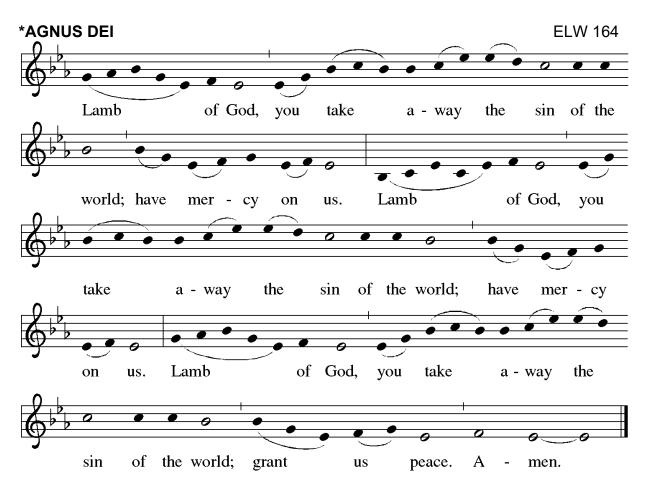
*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

All are welcome to commune

If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know.

Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.





DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION





*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

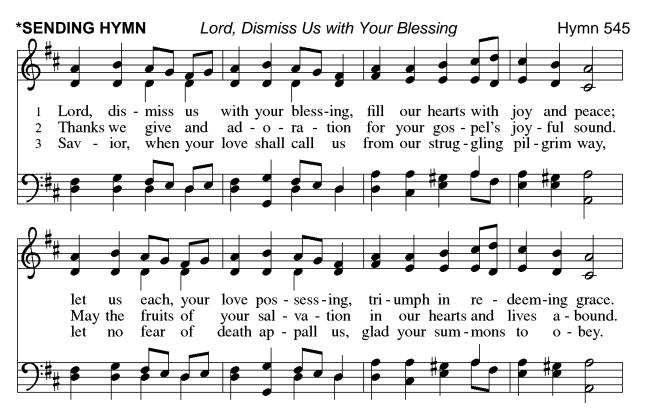
*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

*BLESSING

P Go with blessing.

The One who wove joy throughout the whole cosmos weaves joy within your own heart. The One who experienced all our human joys and sorrows travels right beside you. The One who whispers joy to our hearts is present within you. You are blessed in the name of God, Holy Three in One. Amen.





*DISMISSAL

A Practice joy.

As you leave this place, go with the joy that fills life with meaning.

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously. Thanks be to God.

The Seed of Joy. Confession and Forgiveness; Prayer of the Day; Prayers of the People; Eucharistic Prayer; Blessing & Dismissal © 2023 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission.

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	March 17	March 24
Assisting Minister:	Frank Hueske	Deb Sowers
Acolyte:	Jocelyn Fissel	Cassie Feeser
Cantor:	Diana Leppo	
Lay Reader:	Janet Haack	Bill Sowers
Communion Distributors	Frank Hueske	Josh Baringer
	Glenn Alwine	Steph Baringer
Ushers:	Bob Colehouse	Bob Colehouse
	Dan Fuhrman	Dan Fuhrman
Altar:	Linda Knapp	Linda Knapp
	Sally Lovelace	Sally Lovelace

^{*} Stand if you are able

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MARCH SPECIAL DESIGNATED GIVING – Funding for our youth attending "The National Youth Gathering".

THE RADIO BROADCAST, THE COMMUNION BREAD AND WINE AND THE WORSHIP BULLETINS are sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of the 84th birthday of John Markle from his children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and his loved ones who have passed.

THE ETERNAL FLAME is sponsored to the glory of God and in recognition and thanks to Matthew Murray as he leaves for boot camp to serve our country on March 18th.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at *finance@stpaulsyorkst.org*

Radio-March 31, April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date) Altar Flowers-April 7 & 28 (2 vases at \$20 each); April 14 (1 vase at \$20 each) Communion Bread and Wine-March 31, April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$12 each date) Worship Bulletins-March 31, April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$20 each date) Eternal Flame- April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$10 each date)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR IN <u>FELLOWSHIP HALL</u> IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.

CONCLUDING TODAY - WHAT *DOES* **IT MEAN TO BE A CHRISTIAN IN THE LUTHERAN TRADITION?** Who *do* we say that we are? All are invited to come explore the unique vision of the Lutheran faith as a way of worshiping and living. Taught by Pastor Katrina at 10:45 a.m., *in Fellowship Hall*.

SOMETHING'S BREWING BIBLE STUDY will continue to follow Max Lucado as he delves into the Gospel of John. **Join us in the Lounge, Mon. evenings at 7:00pm.**

LENTEN MIDWEEK DINNER CHURCH: We will be having our final "dinner church" in Fellowship Hall next Wednesday, March 20. Door open at 5:45 with a dinner prayer at 6:00 pm as we share a meal. Casual worship will begin at 6:30 pm led by Pastor Katrina Holland. "The Seed of Joy" is our theme for this Lenten season. Please sign up on the bulletin board by Pastor's office, on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or click the link below to sign up for individual dates.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040544AFA823A2FB6-47210418-lenten

YOUTH AND FAMILY will meet briefly next Sunday. See you in the Youth Room for "Holy Cow, It's Holy Week!" We'll be finished by 11:30.

RUTH'S HARVEST - The Faith In Action Committee is supporting Ruth's Harvest as a Lenten project. The drive will run **through Sunday March 31**, **2024**. We will collect donations of **single-serve** fruit cups, single-serve vegetables. single-serve entrees, single-serve cereals, single-serve snacks, and single-serve drinks. This program is run by the Hanover Area Council of Churches and supplies weekend meals for qualified students from the elementary schools of Hanover. Every week the volunteers of Ruth's Harvest pack bags of nutritious food for students to take home on Fridays. Studies have proven that adequate meals improve overall school performance. This is a way to help the children of Hanover. All donations will be taken to the drop off place at HACC. Please be generous in this important program. As always thank you for being so caring and loving towards your neighbors.

ALL ARE INVITED to our Sisters in Faith March event! We'll meet THIS SATURDAY starting at 11:00 for a "tidying up" of the sanctuary and Bible study led by Janet Haack. Those who are interested can enjoy a lunch at a local restaurant afterward! Hope to see you!

ST. PAUL'S BOOK CLUB will be meeting on **Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 12:30 pm** in the Lounge. The book we will be discussing is <u>Lessons In Chemistry</u> by Bonnie Grams. Remember to bring a bag lunch for the meeting. Hope to see you there.

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY - The Gospel of Mark, A beginner's guide to the Good News - Instructor, Linda Zellers - TUESDAYS, beginning April 2nd at 10:00 am in the Theater room on the 2nd floor. Discover the Good News in the Bible's earliest Gospel Walk through the Bible's earliest source for the life of Jesus with scholar Amy-Jill Levine as she introduces such themes as the Son of Man, discipleship, miracles, and Mark's use of the Old Testament. The Good News of the gospel message comes alive in this book as readers see Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. The book features an in-depth study of select passages and illuminates the Gospel in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels. PLEASE SIGN UP on the sign-up sheet across from Pastor's office BY March 24th so that we can order enough books!

WHAT NUMBERS ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU? Check out our 72 ENVELOPES campaign for our youth attending the Gathering in New Orleans. Consider donating a number amount that speaks to you. Check out the Youth and Family bulletin board for more information!

SISTERS IN FAITH...mark your calendars! Our annual retreat will be at Mar-Lu-Ridge on October 11-13.

GET READY, GET SET, REGISTER FOR CAMP! Council has approved camperships for any St. Paul's members and any person(s) sponsored by a member for this summer at any Lutheran Camping Corporation Camp! Registration for summer camp is now open for Nawakwa, Kirkenwald, Wittel Farm and Mar-Lu-Ridge. Check out the summer schedules here: https://www.lutherancamping.org/ and https://www.lutherancamping.org/ and https://www.lutherancamping.org/ and https://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/ For more information see Laura Silver our CampPerson.

SUN., MARCH 17 Immediately	10:30 am 10:45 am	Lutheran 101 class in Fellowship Hall
MON., MARCH 18	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd Floor Something's Brewing Bible Study – Lounge
WED., MARCH 20		OUR FINAL MID-WEEK LENTEN DINNER AND CHURCH
	5:45 pm 6:30 pm	
THUR., MARCH 21	6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	,
FRI., MARCH 22	3:30 pm	Grocery Ministry prep
SAT., MARCH 23	9:00 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Men in Mission breakfast at Perkins Grocery Ministry (Council) Sister Saturday Evening Service
SUN., MARCH 24 Immediately	8:30 am 9:30 am following 10:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM Worship Service – Palm Sunday Coffee Hour in the Lounge Youth and Family – Youth room