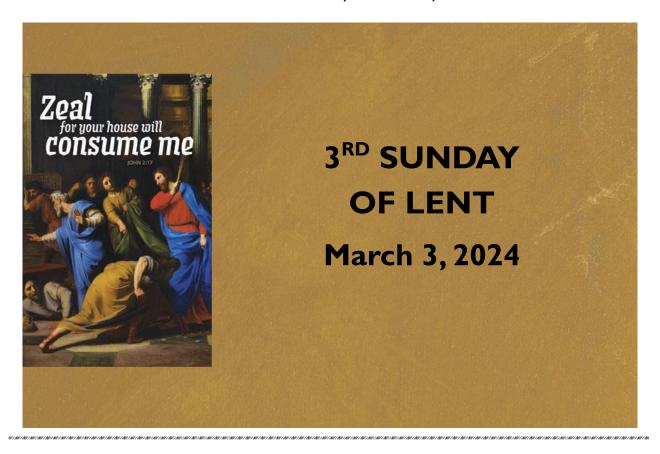
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 127 YORK STREET, HANOVER, PA



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 + 3rd Sunday of Lent +

March 3, 2024

INTRODUCTION

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and 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.

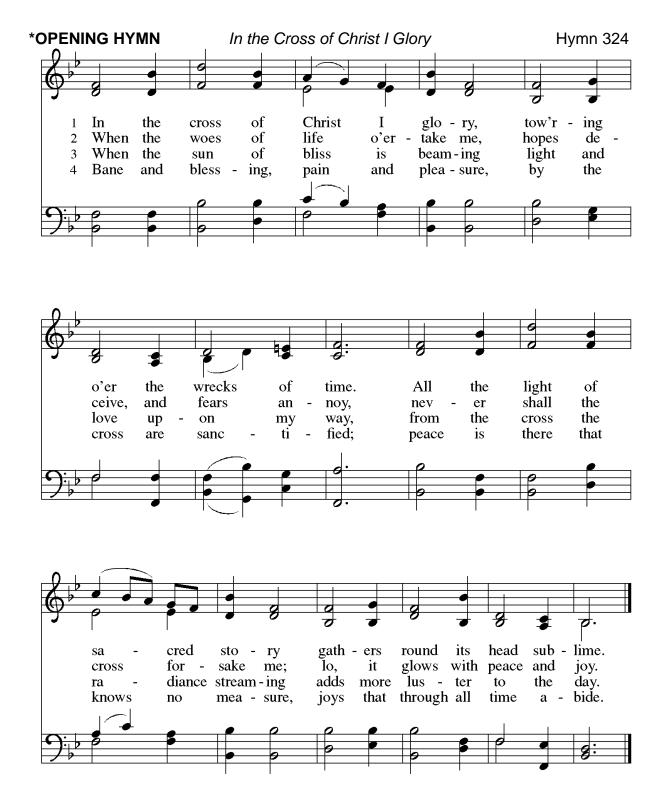
Silence is kept for reflection.

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.

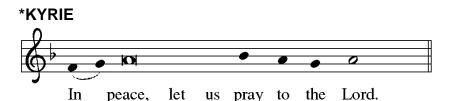
Assurance of Forgiveness

- 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.

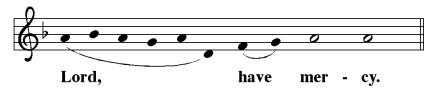


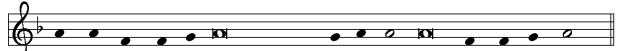
*GREETING

- 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.

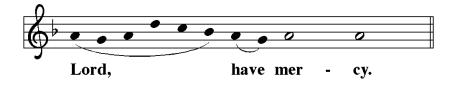


ELW pg. 156-157



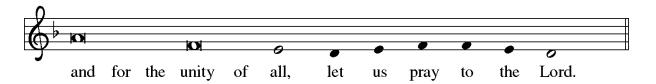


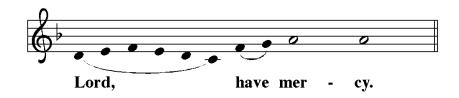
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.





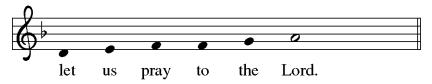
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

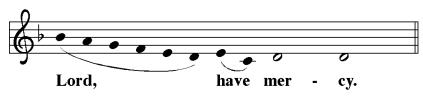




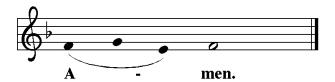


For this ho-ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,









*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

God our Liberator, we live in a world where so many are not free: kept in poverty, forced to labor, bound to economics that devalue and demean. Break the chains that hold your people where bodies suffer and minds are locked. Guide us to joy beyond our imagining.

Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

L ¹God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. 4You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. ¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM Psalm 19 read responsively

- A ¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
- C ²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard, ⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

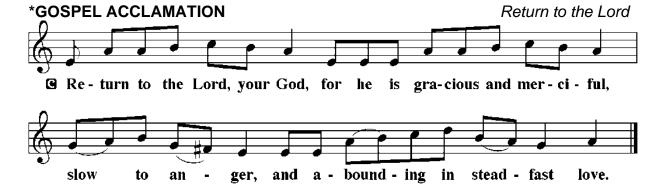
SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

L 18The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." 20Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. 22For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 23but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



*GOSPEL John 2:13-22

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

- P The Holy Gospel according to John 2:13-22
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Katrina Holland



*APOSTLES' CREED

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

Seek the Lord

arr. Alley & Mutebi

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Children's Choir

(Use this time to reflect on your financial and spiritual offerings to God.)

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.

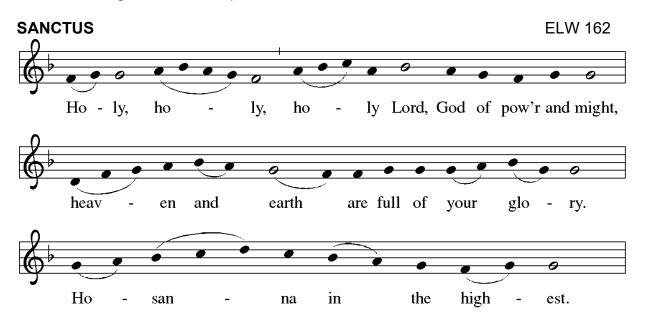
Rejoice with full hearts.

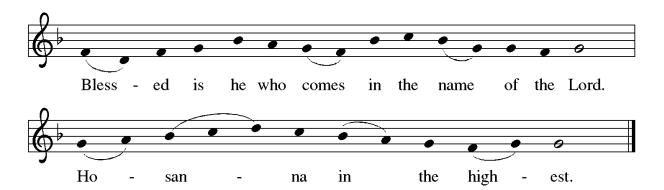
We offer them to God.

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.

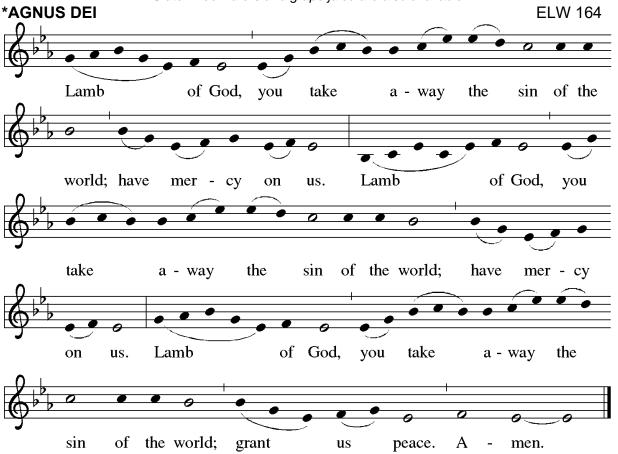
*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

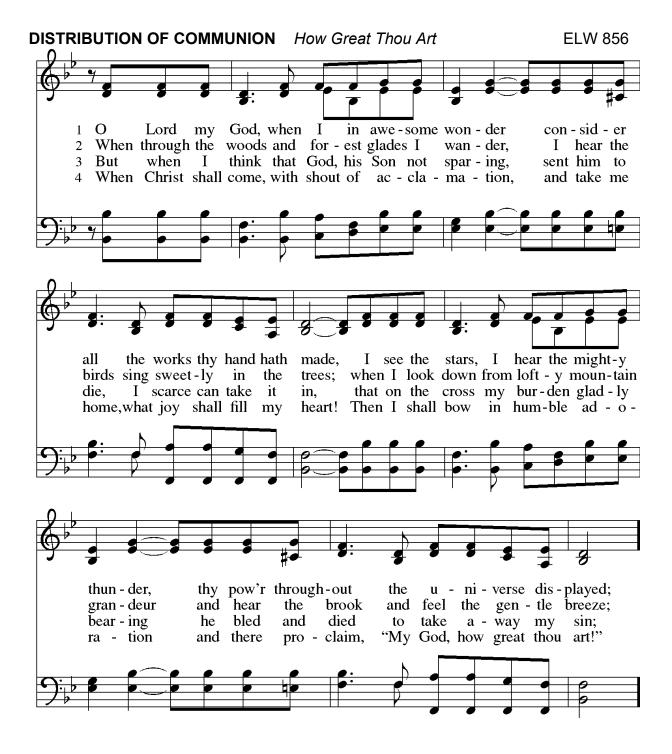
P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

All are welcome to commune

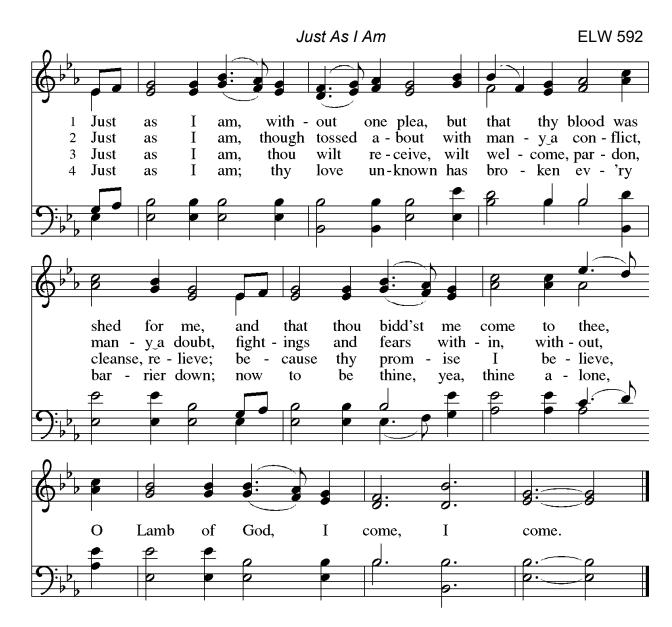
If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know.

Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.









*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

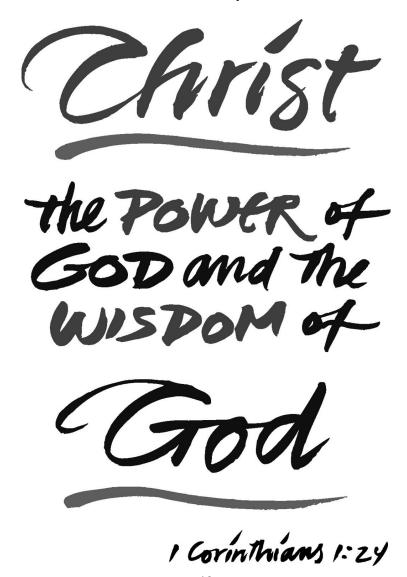
making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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 looks forward with hope.

C 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 3	March 10
Guest Organist	Becky Ellis	TBD
Assisting Minister:	Russ Kaltreider	Donna Lehman
Acolyte:	Cassie Feeser	Leah Kaltreider
Cantor:	Russ Kaltreider	Deb Sowers
Lay Reader:	Betty Sheets	Sherry Cracium-Bolin
Communion Distributors	Wayne Butler	Janet Haack
	Suzanne Butler	Sherry Cracium-Bolin
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".

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at <u>finance@stpaulsyorkst.org</u>

Radio–March 10 & 31 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date) Communion Bread and Wine- March 10 & 31 (\$12 each date) Worship Bulletins- March 10 & 31 (\$20 each date)

THE ETERNAL FLAME is sponsored to the glory of God.

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

CONTINUING 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 on the five Sundays of Lent at 10:45 a.m., *in Fellowship Hall*. Each session will be one hour.

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.**

RUTH'S HARVEST - The Faith In Action Committee is supporting Ruth's Harvest as a Lenten project. The drive will run from **Sunday, February 18 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 away 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.

COMING NEXT SUNDAY! - The Westminster Ringers will present a Handbell Concert here at St. Paul's on March 10th at 4:00 pm. **PLEASE JOIN US!**

LENTEN MIDWEEK DINNER CHURCH: We will be having "dinner church" in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday nights through 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 with music by Steven Ruppright. "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

FAITH FORMATION UPDATE (for children): last month we learned about Jesus' parables of the Lost Coin and Lost Sheep. How wonderful that God seeks us out, rejoices when we "are found", and welcomes us to God's family! Read the parable in Luke 15.

ALL ARE INVITED to our Sisters in Faith March event! We'll meet on March 23 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!

72 ENVELOPES?? Luke 10:1–"After this, the Lord appointed 72 others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go…" We as a congregation are getting ready to send a group of disciples to the Gathering in New Orleans. Consider contributing to our "72 Envelopes" campaign by taking one or more envelopes and donating that amount. Check out the Youth and Family bulletin board for more information!

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.mar-lu-ridge.org/
For more information see Laura Silver our CampPerson.

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



SUN., MARCH 3 Immediate	8:30 am 9:30 am ely following 10:30 am 10:45 am	
MON., MARCH 4	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd Floor Something's Brewing Bible Study – Lounge
TUES., MARCH 5	11:00 am	Evangelism Committee meeting – Conference Room
WED., MARCH 6	5:45 pm 6:30 pm 8:00 pm	doors open for Mid-Week Lenten Dinner Mid-Week Lenten Worship-all in Fellowship Hall Christian Education Committee meeting
THUR., MARCH 7	6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Handbell Choir rehearsal–sanctuary balcony Cub Scout Pack 102–2 nd Floor Boy Scouts Troop 102–Youth Room & gym Adult Choir rehearsal–sanctuary
FRI., MARCH 8	3:30 pm	Grocery Ministry prep
SAT., MARCH 9	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Grocery Ministry (Boy Scout Troop 102) Saturday Evening Service
SUN., MARCH 10 Immediate	8:30 am 9:30 am ely following 10:30 am 10:45 am 4:00 pm	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM Worship Service – 4 th Sunday in Lent Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall Faith Formation – 2 nd floor Lutheran 101 class in Fellowship Hall Westminster Ringers concert – sanctuary