

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Bonnie Jacque, Pastor

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

TIME OF SHARING

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

SUNG INTROIT Be Still and Know #743x2 Screen

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God, Be still and know that I am God.

***CALL TO WORSHIP Screen**

One: Our lives feel all disjointed as though they were a valley of dry bones.

MANY: BUT THE SPIRIT OF GOD WILL BRING CONNECTION AND CONTINUITY TO OUR LIVES.

One: The Spirit of God breathes hope into each one of us.

MANY: THE SPIRIT OF GOD CHALLENGES US TO BE PEOPLE OF FAITH.

One: Open our hearts, Lord, and bring us to your light.

MANY: OPEN OUR LIVES, LORD, AND BREAK US FREE FROM DOUBT AND FEAR. AMEN.

<https://ministrymatters.com> Worship Connection Nancy C. Townley

OPENING PRAYER Screen

HEALING AND EMPOWERING GOD, WE ARE SOMETIMES SO SURE THAT THINGS WILL NOT WORK OUT, WE DOUBT EVEN YOUR ABILITY TO PUT THINGS RIGHT IN OUR LIVES. WE LACK SUCH FAITH. BUT JESUS CAME TO SHOW US THAT OUR MOST DREADED ENEMY--DEATH--CAN BE OVERCOME BY FAITH. HEAL OUR DOUBTS AND OUR LONGINGS FOR ASSURANCE AND GIVE US SPIRITS OF TRUST AND HOPE. AMEN.

<https://ministrymatters.com> worship connection Nancy C. Townley

HYMN Out of the Depths #554

CALL TO CONFESSION Screen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Screen

GOD OF US ALL: YOU CALL TO US ACROSS THE GENERATIONS. EXPRESSING YOUR LOVE, YOU NUDGE US TO LOVE AND CARE FOR EACH OTHER AND ALL

CREATION AND YET WE FAIL. AND YOU WEEP. YOU GRIEVE OUR FAILURE TO BE WHO YOU KNOW WE CAN BE. FORGIVE US. CONTINUE THE JOURNEY WITH US. CHALLENGE US. MOVE US. LOVE US. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Screen

SUNG RESPONSE Adapted from #769 Screen

Hear our prayer, O God,
Hear our prayer, O God,
Hear our prayer, O God,
And grant us your peace.

CHOIR Just For a Closer Walk with Thee

SCRIPTURE Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Ps 130; John 11: 1-45, 12:1-8

HYMN Lord, If Only You Had Been Here **Screen**

Tune: God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Hymns by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette used with permission

“Lord, if only you had been here, one I love would not have died.”
Martha shared her grief with Jesus in these words she sadly cried.
Jesus said, “I’m resurrection. Martha, do you know it’s true?
I’m the life for which you’re longing.” She said, “I believe in you!”

“Lord, if only you had been here!” Jesus heard these words again.
Mary, sitting home and waiting, spoke to Jesus of her pain.
So our Lord was deeply troubled in this world of death and sin.
Sometimes all we see is struggle; death and evil seem to win,

“Lord, if only you had been here,” we cry out when all goes wrong -
When our grief is overwhelming, when life’s troubles seem so strong.
Then, O Lord, we hear your answer: “I am resurrection - See!
Not just in some distant future - I am life! Now live in me!”

When we share your resurrection, when we know that you are life,
We find courage for our living in this world of pain and strife.
We your church will work for justice, welcome strangers, help the poor.
Faced with death, we’ll witness: you are with us, Risen Lord.

MEDITATION Heavenly Smell

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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 SINS, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN 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. AMEN.

INVITATION TO OFFERING Screen

<https://worshipways.com> Dr. Sharon R. Fennema

***DOXOLOGY Screen**

**PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW;
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW;
PRAISE GOD, FOR ALL THAT LOVE HAS DONE;
CREATOR, CHRIST AND SPIRIT, ONE. AMEN.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION Screen**

FROM THESE OFFERINGS, HOLY ONE, CREATE FREEDOM. FROM THESE HEARTS, HOLY ONE, RAISE UP LOVE. FROM THESE HANDS, HOLY ONE, BRING LIFE. FROM EVERY ONE OF OUR GIFTS, IN THE SHARING OF OUR RESOURCES, MAY WE BE UNBOUND, AND CALLED FORTH INTO A NEW DAY TOGETHER. AMEN.

***HYMN Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling #59**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Credits: CCLI #48321379

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Liturgy: As found on the screens.

Images: Pastor Bonnie, Karrie H., Google Images,

freechristimages.com/images/John11_1Raising_Lazarus_Bloch.jpg

*If rising from a seated position is an issue for you, please remain seated. The phrase, "Stand in body or spirit as you are able" is intended to give you permission to do so without embarrassment.

Congregational Response to each prayer request is: **Your prayer is our prayer. Your joy is our joy.**

Reminders - Head to <https://stpaulserin.org> for details

03/22 - Altar Committee Meeting after worship

03/28 - Easter Egg Hunt

03/29 - Palm Sunday

04/02 - Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service at 7 PM

04/05 - Easter Sunday

If anyone would like a reminder text/phone call or a ride to any church event, please call Pastor Bonnie on the church phone. **Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls and visits: Diane S., Joyce O’K, Mark G., John and Polly E., Mary and Tom G., Lucy K., Steve M., Cheri J., Dave Z. and Bernice D.**

Greeters for This Week:

Greeters for Next Week: Lee A. and Jack D.

Liturgist for This Week: Jill L.

Liturgist for Next Week:

Following worship, you are invited for coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall.