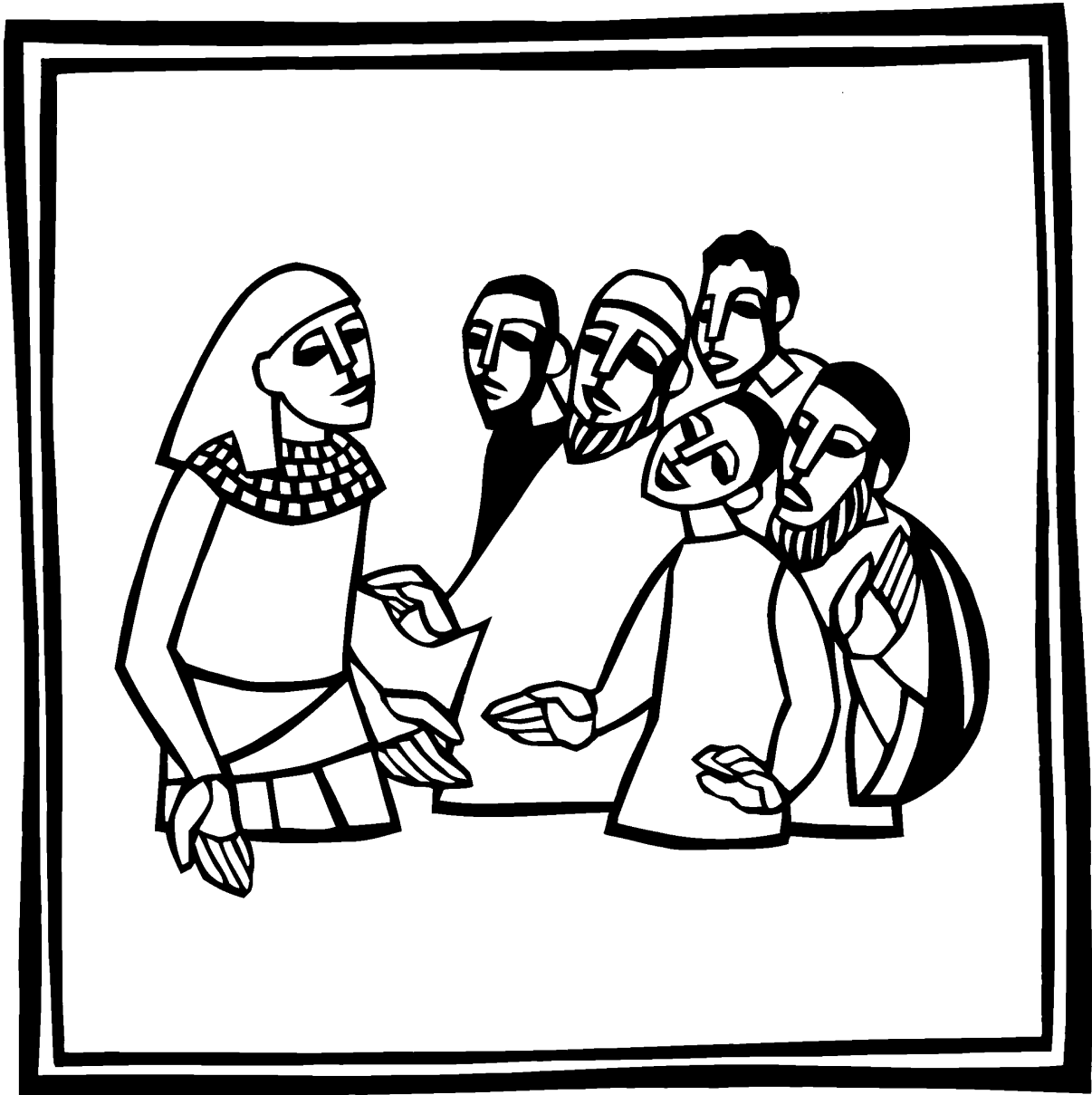


*Seventh Sunday
after Epiphany*



February 20, 2022

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 20, 2022*



“Love Stinks”

Prelude Music

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P We begin our worship today, surrounded by God's love, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Almighty God to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,
- C We confess that we have sinned against you. We put ourselves first and fail to love our neighbors. We worry about the problems of others and we neglect ourselves. We have become stuck in our ways of being. We have become addicted to our own way of thinking. God, we need your grace and forgiveness. We need your help to let go. We need a new beginning. So, for the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and give us a new start, show us the way to follow you and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake, God forgives all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Because that is what love does!
- C Amen.

Opening Hymn: WOV 731

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home.

When my way grows drear
Precious Lord, linger near
When my life is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home.

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home.

Apostolic 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.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (read responsively)

The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)

- A Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- C **For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**
- A Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
- C **Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.**
- A Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.
- C **The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
- A Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- C **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**
- A For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
- C **In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**
- A But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.
- C **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**
- A You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.
- A The Word of the Lord
- C **Thanks be to God.**
- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the Sixth Chapter
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

[Jesus said:] “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

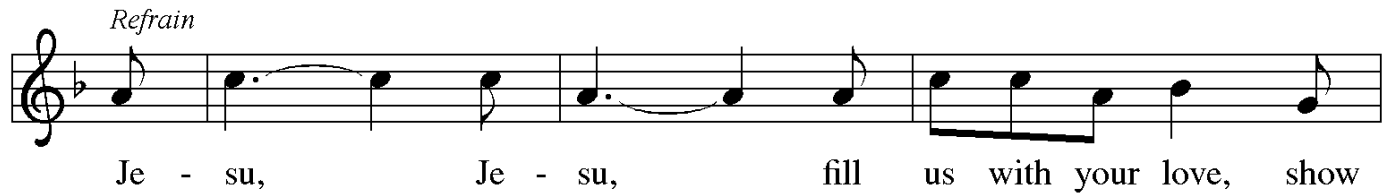
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Steve Biegner



Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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Apostle's Creed

A Let's join to proclaim our faith in the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 Church

A The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled, especially the people on our Prayer List and those we name either silently or aloud. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

- A You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another and to resolve conflicts with humility and patience. Bless families of all shapes and sizes, and show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- A We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom. As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- A Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C **Amen.**

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

With our return to in-person worship, we thought we would let you know about a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** If you are not be able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's - 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

- P Let us pray.
- C God of grace, we give you thanks for all the blessings you have poured into our lives. Thank you for the opportunities to share those blessings through and beyond St. Paul's. Use the gifts we offer here today and in our planned giving to bless the world with your hope, your presence and your love. Amen

Dialogue and Preface

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 God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

P In the night in which he was handed over, 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.

Lord's Prayer

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

C 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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

*Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread, take the wine and return to your seat via the side aisle. *Or remain in your seat and use the elements you picked up on the way into church. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the assisting minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.*

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

P We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: WOV 140 (on the following page)

There is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain: Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your son
and sending your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.

Refrain

When I stand in glory, I will see his face;
there I'll serve my king forever, in that holy place.

Refrain

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P May you be unleashed, unleashed into the world, as we go in peace and serve
 the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: February 20-27, 2022

TODAY: 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion (NO Sunday School today)
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Monday: 4:30-6:00 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal-Share at St. Paul's

Tuesday: 10:00 am: Bible Study

Wednesday: 8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: 10:00 am: Way-2-Go Tours Meeting
7:00 pm: Alanon

Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
9:00 am: Men's Group Meeting

Sunday: 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: are given to the Glory of God.

Prayer List: In our congregational family: (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Karen Brown, 59 Kibler Drive, Depew, NY 14043
Neal DeLeo: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031
Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221
Claire Franke: Elderwood, 225 Bennett Road, #223, Cheektowaga, NY 14227
Chad Israel and Hayley Israel
David Lampe: 73 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214
Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221
Lois O'Brian: 107 Fairbanks Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14223
Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105
Betty Venator: PO Box 386, Williamsville, NY 14221
David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Prayer List: In our and extended family: Oliver Krawczyk (son of Steve and Christine Krawczyk who was born at 25 weeks and currently in NICU at Oishei Children's Hospital); Eric Hawkins (grandson of Curt and Joyce Chace who will be deployed 3/21/2022); Colleen Connor (Scott Vahue's sister-in-law); Thomas Maier; Kevin Dennis (friend of Scott Vahue); Judy Brown (daughter of Kathryn Brown and sister of Bob Brown); Ira Striejewske

Deacon Schedule: 2/20: Sara Gallagher; 2/27: John Schunak

Usher Schedule: 2/20: Lonny Walter and Gerry Keppel; 2/27: Mike and Michele Degen

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: 10:00 am. Reservations are not required. In accordance with NY State mandates and because of the increase of the Covid variant in our area, we are asking everyone to wear a face mask while in the building at **all times** regardless of vaccination status. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also being livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

WNY Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as WNY Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The Pantry hours for February are: Thursday, 2/17 from 3:00-6:30 pm and Saturday 2/12 and 2/26 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for February are: juice, canned fruit, crackers, and cookies.

Daily Bread Food Truck: The Daily Bread Food Truck is continuing their "give one" season and is parked in the St. Paul's driveway next to the flag pole each Monday night giving hot meals out from 4:30-6:00 pm. If you would like to help give out food during our Meal-Share night, please contact Katie in the office at 716-835-0407. Thank you!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Eggertsville
4007 Main Street

JOIN US FOR
ASH WEDNESDAY
March 2, 2022



Beginning on Ash Wednesday, we start the season of Lent.
This is a time of reflection and preparation before the
celebrations of Easter.

Pastor Steve will be distributing ashes (on-the-go)
from 6:30-6:45 pm outside the front entrance at St. Paul's.

Worship service will be held at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.

Our Lenten theme for 2022 will be: "Returning to the Lord"

"For dust you are and to dust you shall return."
(Genesis 3:19).

ST. PAUL'S
YOUTH GROUP PRESENTS
*The Annual
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
March 26th from 4-7 pm*

After two years of cancellations,
WE ARE BACK!!

Dinner includes unlimited salad, bread sticks, dessert and pasta & meatballs with homemade sauce!!!

Free-Will offering to benefit the Youth Group for this summer's Lake Chautauqua Camperships and the next National Youth Gathering.

We do need some delicious donated desserts and beautiful baskets for the raffle.

If you can help us out, please contact the office at St. Paul's 716-835-0407 OR Adam Weber 716-435-8974



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 4007 MAIN STREET EGGERTSVILLE



+ St. Paul's Mission +

To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

*We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives,
and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.*

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Kathryn Francis

Vice-President: David Schunak

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Gerri Horton

*Janelle Andersen Susan Epstein Matt Fricano
Nick Hazlett Debbie Regan-Howe Robert Simpson*

Pastor Rev. Steve Biegner (868-1232 - cell)

E-mail: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org

Director of Music: Paul H. Storf

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Parish Administrator: Katie Basham

E-mail: katie@stpaulseggertsville.org

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org