

*“Journey to the Cross”*

Church

UNLEASHED

*Church Unleashed*

*April 3, 2022*

*Welcome to Church Unleashed hosted by:  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rev. Steve Biegner  
Parkside Lutheran Church, Rev. Jeremiah Smith  
Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Roger Griffiths, Jr.  
Faith Lutheran Church, Sarasota, FL, Rev. Eric Olsen*

*"The Journey to the Cross: Mary Anoints Jesus for His Burial"  
April 3, 2022*

*Future services will be recorded and aired on YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV.  
MeTV will broadcast Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m. on the following channels:  
For DirecTV: Ch. 67; For Cable, Fios, and Dish: Ch. 5; For "Rabbit Ears": Ch. 67-1*

### *Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness*


P We begin worship today in the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and invites us to journey to the cross.

C Amen.

P Together, let's confess our brokenness to God. Holy One,

C we confess that we have wandered far from you, we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and help us return to you again. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor.

Amen

P Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God will be saved. When we arrive at this cross, we see the incredible love God has for us. And because of that love through Jesus' sacrifice , your sins are forgiven. May you celebrate that you are unconditionally loved and forgiven by God.

C Amen

*Opening Hymn: ELW 504*

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



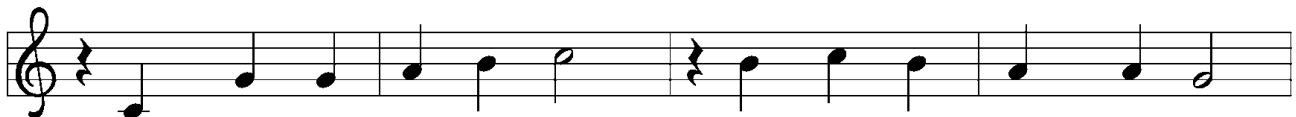
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

*Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

## *Apostles' Creed*

**P** Let's confess the faith of the Church together using 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*

### *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

### *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.

### *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: April 3-10, 2022

- TODAY:** 10:00 am: WNY Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV  
10:00 am: In-Person Worship, Communion, Sunday School  
11:00 am: New Missionary Meeting  
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:** 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting (bring your lunch)  
1:00 pm: Pinochle Group  
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open  
6:00 pm: Alanon
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Worship  
9:00 am: Men's Group Meeting  
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open  
5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Church Palm Weekend Worship Service
- Sunday:** **Palm 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

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

Neal DeLeo: Bristol village, 8455 Clarence Center Road, #105, Clarence Center, NY 14032

Richard Elliott: 34 Pino Alto Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

Chad Israel and Hayley Israel

David Lampe: 73 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221

Alison Silsby: 4360 Peet Street, Middleport, NY 14105

David Wolf: P.O. Box 198, Clarence Center, NY 14031

***Prayer List: In our and extended family: Thomas Maier; Ira Striejewske***

***Lutheran World Relief for Ukraine:*** If you would like to donate, you can go to [donate.lwr.org](https://donate.lwr.org) for additional information and the donation form, or mail your donation to P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. You can also call 1-800-597-5972 to make a secure credit card donation.

## **ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***In-Person Worship:*** 10:00 am. Masks are now optional while you are in the building. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. 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 April are: Thursday 4/7 and 4/21 from 3:00-6:30 pm and Saturday 4/9 and 4/23 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for April are: sugar, granola bars, snacks, and crackers.

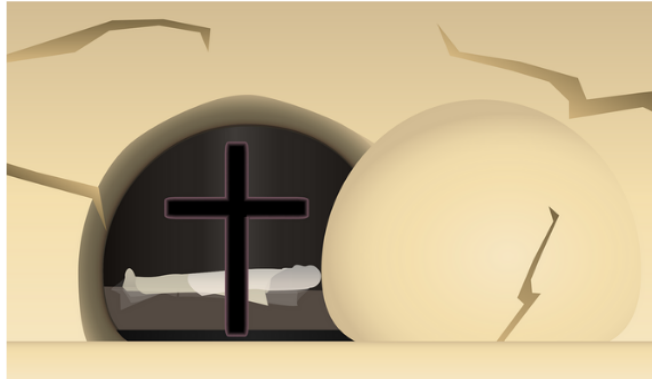
***Daily Bread Food Truck:*** The Daily Bread Food Truck is continuing their "give one" season and is parked in the St. Paul's driveway next to the flag pole each Monday night giving hot meals out from 4:30-6:00 pm. If you would like to help give out food during our Meal-Share night, please contact the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

### ***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 to the church office 4007 Main St., 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/>

# H O L Y   W E E K



## **Palm Weekend**

**Saturday April 9th**

*5 pm Amherst Lutheran Church*

**Sunday April 10th**

*10 am St. Paul's*

## **Maundy Thursday April 14th**

"Dinner Church" (Pot-Luck with Communion)

*6:30 pm St. Paul's*

## **Good Friday April 15th**

*12 pm Amherst Lutheran Church*

*7 pm St. Paul's*

## **Easter Sunday April 17th**

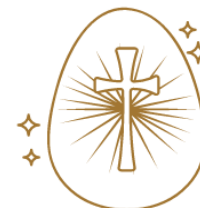
Sunrise Worship Service

*6 am St. Paul's*



Easter Worship

*10 am St. Paul's*





## **Parkside Lutheran Church Announcements - April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

*At Parkside we are rediscovering the radical love of Jesus -*

*Gathering All, Serving All, Caring for All*

2 Wallace Ave Buffalo, NY 14214 (corner of Depew)

(716)836-1361 parksidelutheran@gmail.com

**There are 3 ways to watch the recorded Service 10am Sundays:**

TV: Station METV - channel 5 on Cable, Fios & Dish or channel 67 on DirecTV

Or, view anytime on WNY Church Unleashed Facebook or YouTube

**Or, at Parkside Lutheran Church 10am** Masks are now optional

**WEATHER POLICY** - If there is a driving ban in the City of Buffalo, Parkside Lutheran Church will be closed - otherwise the service will go on. However, we want everyone to be safe, so if you are unsure about the roads/travel it's ok to worship God from home!

**Upcoming events:**

Sun., April 10<sup>th</sup> - Palm Sunday - 10am Service and tentative first communion celebration

Thurs., April 14<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday - 6:15pm Dinner/Service

Fri., April 15<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday - 7:15pm Service

Sun., April 17<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday - 10am Service

**Burrito Project** - Every 4th Tuesday of the month, volunteers from Parkside hand out Burritos in Downtown Buffalo. If you'd like to help, contact Alison Smith [alisonmsmith07@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmsmith07@gmail.com). Next date is Tuesday, April 26, 2022

**North Buffalo Food Pantry** - Open Saturday 9am-1pm - enter on Depew side of building. DASH's Supermarket receipts are being collected to benefit the Food Pantry. Place them in the small bright green box in the Narthex. *Thank you!*

**Blessing Box** - We need non-perishable foods for the Blessing Box. Especially welcome are "grab & go" nonperishable foods, especially those that withstand freezing temps. Drop off donations in the Narthex or put them directly in the box. Located on Depew side of building.


**Ronald McDonald House** - A congregation member's grandson is raising funds for the [Ronald McDonald House](#) by collecting pop can tabs. There is a small Ronald McDonald cardboard box in the Narthex where you can leave your pop can tabs. *Thank you!*

**Diaper Collection** - This Lent, Lutheran churches across Upstate New York are collecting Diapers. We hope to collectively collect 50,000 Diapers.

*Why Diapers?* Diapers are material basic necessities all children require, as essential as food, shelter, and clothing. Yet, most state and national safety-net programs do not recognize diapers as a basic need. *What is Diaper Need?* Diaper need is the lack of a sufficient amount of diapers to keep a baby clean, dry, and healthy. Babies require up to 12 diapers a day, toddlers about eight. Five Million babies and toddlers live in poor or low-income families. On average Diapers cost between \$70 and \$80 dollars a month.

There are zero federal programs that cover the cost of diapers. Check out Buffalo's Diaper Bank for more info: <https://www.everybottomcovered.org/>

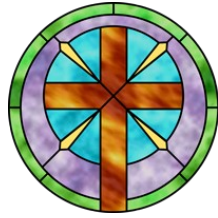
**Please join us in collecting Diapers from March 6<sup>th</sup> through April 10<sup>th</sup>.** Disposable baby diapers any size, pull ups size 2T-5T, wipes & diaper cream. Feel free to Pastor Jeremiah with any questions.

 **Prayer Tree: Congregation:** Prayers for the Rice Family and all who mourn the passing of Jeff's dad Gary, especially Jeff, Sandra, Zach and Emma Rice and his Gary's wife, Sue. Prayers for Joan Bauer to feel the love of friends and for patience and strength; Jean Czora; Ruth DeAeth

**Friends & Family:** Prayers for all who mourn the passing of Rick Hooker, especially his son, our dear Music Director, Mike Hooker; Iris Wiley; Carl Byers; Samira & Family; Sherry Barstow for healing; prayers for Hannah, who is fighting cancer, Kevin; Jamison; Don; Healing prayers for Judi's sister, Jo Anne. Pray for people of Ukraine and all those affected by war; Help anyone who feels scared today. We offer our prayers for the church, the world & all people in need.

**Want more info about all that is happening at Parkside LC?** Sign up for our weekly email on our website - [parksidelutheran.org](http://parksidelutheran.org) - Like us on Facebook - Follow us on Instagram

## OPPORTUNITIES AT ZION



- + **Indoor Worship:**
- + **Saturdays @ 5pm and Sundays @ 9:15am -- ALL ARE WELCOME, WE MEAN IT!**
- + **Sunday indoor Church School ('rolling schedule'):** *contact Elaine Baker ([elaine@zionclarencelcenter.com](mailto:elaine@zionclarencelcenter.com)) for the schedule.*
- + **Sunday Adult Bible Class @ 10:30am:** *contact Pastor Roger Griffiths*
- **Interested in helping the folks at Zion expand Zion's digital 'footprint'?** *Contact Pastor Roger Griffiths*

*Zion Lutheran Church  
9535 Clarence Center Road  
Clarence Center, NY 14032  
(716) 741-2656*

We would like to express our gratitude to the following individuals  
who have been gifting their services to help bring you  
the Sunday MeTV productions:

Video and Editing:

Nick Stroczkowski, Brothers and Sisters Film Production Company

Sound:

Andrew Gruszka, The Record DJ Co.

DJs/MCs, SOUND & LIGHTING



[WWW.THERECORDDJCO.COM](http://WWW.THERECORDDJCO.COM)

[THERECORDDJCO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THERECORDDJCO@GMAIL.COM)

***Church Unleashed is a partnership between:  
Pastor Jeremiah Smith from Parkside Lutheran Church,  
Pastor Roger Griffiths, Jr. from Zion Lutheran Church,  
Pastor Steve Biegner from St. Paul's Lutheran Church,  
and Pastor Eric Olsen from Faith Lutheran Church, Sarasota, FL,  
whose mission is to unleash the message of God's good news into every home.***