

“Journey to the Cross”

Church

UNLEASHED

Church Unleashed

March 27, 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: Gets Bumpy"
March 27, 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 422

For All the Saints



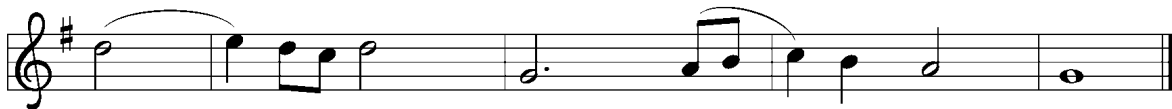
1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3–5 below.
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: the
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
 Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; . .
 saints triumphant rise in bright array; the
 gates of pearl streams in the countless host, . .



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
 thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
 King of glory passes on his way.
 singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle,
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the
 5 The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful



they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are
 distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are
 servants cometh rest; . . . sweet is the calm of paradise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 strong.
 blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Music from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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Children's Time: Pastor Eric Olsen

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Sermon: Pastor Roger Griffiths, Jr.



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

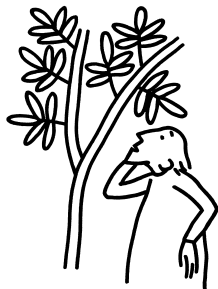
P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, 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: March 27-April 3, 2022

- TODAY:** 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
- 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:** 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
3:00 pm: Piette Bridal Shower
- 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

Lois O'Brian: 107 Fairbanks Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14223

John Schunak: 193 E. Pinelake Court, 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 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

6:30 am St. Paul's



Easter Worship
10 am St. Paul's



IMPACT SUMMER DAY CAMP at St. Paul's

Session 1: June 27-July 1: \$125.00

Session 2: July 5-July 8: \$100.00

Session 3: July 11-July 15: \$125.00

Drop-Off: 8:30-9:00 am

Pick Up: 3:00-3:30 pm

**This year's theme: 5 Habits of
Happy Little Humans**

**Daily Focus: First Things First, Show
Love, Seek Understanding, Work
Together, Celebrate.**

Lunch and snacks included

**(Contact St. Paul's for additional
information)**

Parkside Lutheran Church Announcements – March 27th 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 3rd – After 10am Service – communion class (details below) *Please let Pastor know asap if you'd like to attend.*

Sun., April 10th – Palm Sunday – 10am Service and tentative first communion celebration

Thurs., April 14th – Maundy Thursday – 6:15pm Dinner/Service

Fri., April 15th – Good Friday – 7:15pm Service

Sun., April 17th – Easter Sunday – 10am Service

First Communion/Communion Celebration 2022

Our recent tradition at Parkside has been to offer some family classes after worship and then celebrate on Palm Sunday. **Class is scheduled for April 3rd**, with Palm Sunday happening on April 10th.

Who is eligible for this class? Anyone! In recent years the church has practices what is called 'open' table. This means you don't have to be a member of Parkside - you don't even have to be Lutheran - ALL are welcomed. We also know Jesus was big on welcoming children. Pastor will serve anyone who comes up and sticks out a hand. These classes are an opportunity for those who still want to mark the occasion with a celebration. They are also an opportunity for the family to talk about faith/values/traditions. Each class is about an hour and we will have lunch together.

If you or a child in your life is interested in participating, please let Pastor know asap, so that we can have the right amount of food and supplies. The whole family does not have to attend but all are welcomed. We do ask that at least one adult attend. (Again, the hope being that these classes foster further conversation at home.)

Email Pastor at PrJeremiahPSmith@gmail.com to sign up or with any questions you have.

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. 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/>

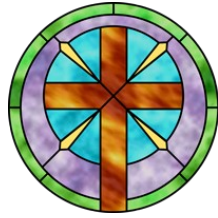
Please join us in collecting Diapers from March 6th through April 10th. Disposable baby diapers any size, pull ups size 2T-5T, wipes & diaper cream. Feel free to Pastor Jeremiah with any questions.

 **Prayer Tree: Congregation:** Prayers for Joan Bauer to feel the love of friends and for patience and strength; Jean Czora; Pray for the Lennert-Walek family to remain strong; Linda Witmer & family as they mourn the passing of Linda's mother; Ruth DeAeth; Diefenbach Family; Pankow family.

Friends & Family: Prayers for all who mourn the passing of Rick Hooker, especially his son, our dear Music Director, Mike Hooker; 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 - 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) 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

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.***