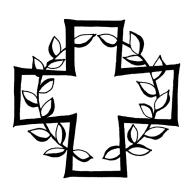
Fifth Sunday in Lent



March 25, 2023
5:00 pm
St. Paul's
Amherst Lutheran Campus

Welcome to the Amherst Lutheran Campus of St. Paul's Lutheran Church Fifth Sunday in Lent March 25, 2023



Pre-Service Music: Adam Schmidt

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,
- We find ourselves in the wilderness again, 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, then all who call out to God from the wilderness will feel and experience God's grace and peace. 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

O Living Breath of God



- 1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin ning up-on the wa ters;
- 2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a mong us;
- 3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa ters;



- O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre-a-tion to won-drous birth:
- O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre a tion gives life a new:
- O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre a tion for free-dom's birth:





O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

Text: Osvaldo Catena, 1920-1986; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: VÅRVINDAR FRISKA, Swedish folk tune

Tr. © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

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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.

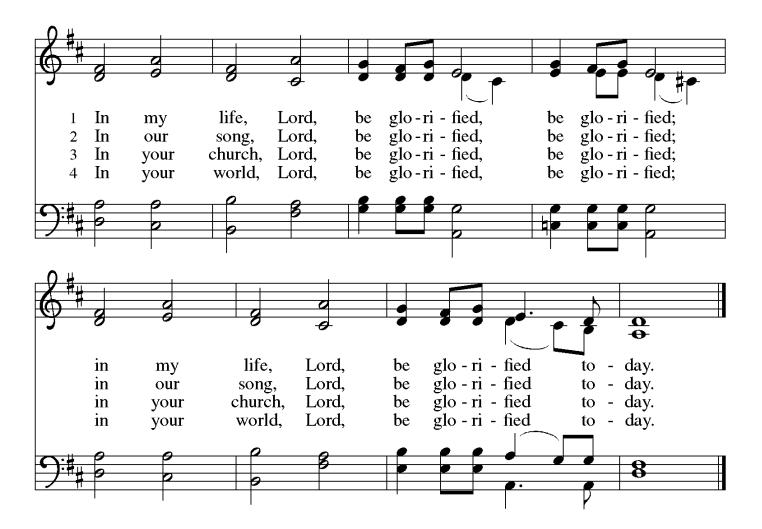
Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

\mathbf{C} Amen.

Praise Song: W&P 89

Lord, Be Glorified



Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952 Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick

Text and music @ 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

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First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the LORD."

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GoD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

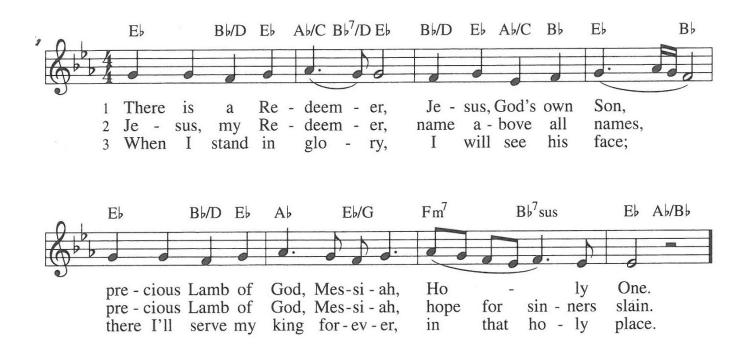
Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

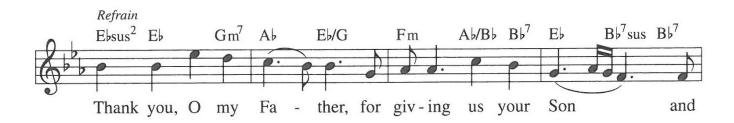
To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life

because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: W&P 140: There is a Redeemer







- P The Holy Gospel according to John the 11th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 11:1-45

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land



Text: African American spiritual

Music: WEARY LAND, African American spiritual

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.

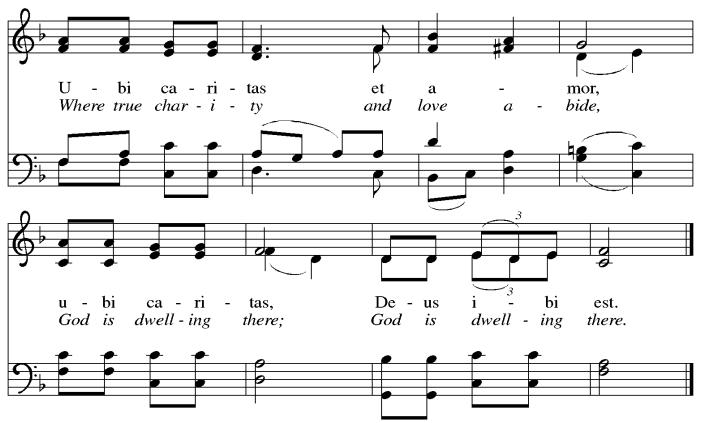
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the Church

- P Lord in your mercy.
- C Hear our prayer.

Offering Hymn: WOV 665

Ubi caritas et amor Where True Charity and Love Abide



Offering Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- 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

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 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/

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 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:
- 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

Communion Hymn: W&P 76

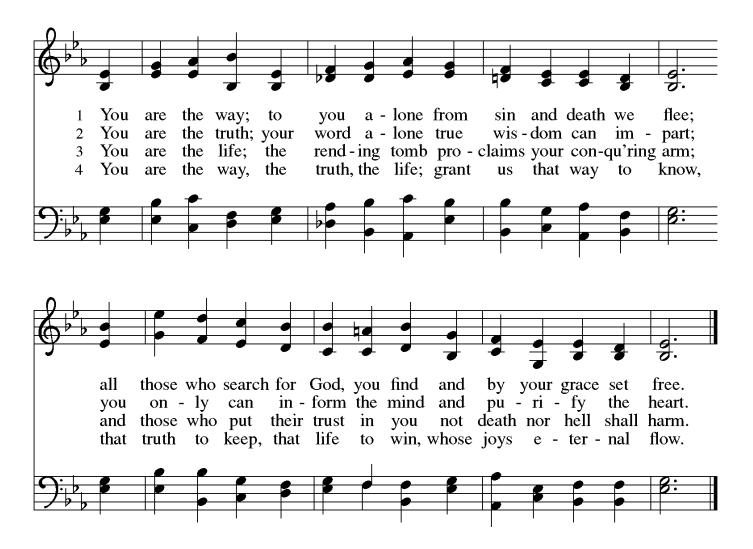


Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. 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.

Distribution Hymn: ELW 758

You Are the Way



Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt. Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

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 Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.
- C Amen.

Benediction

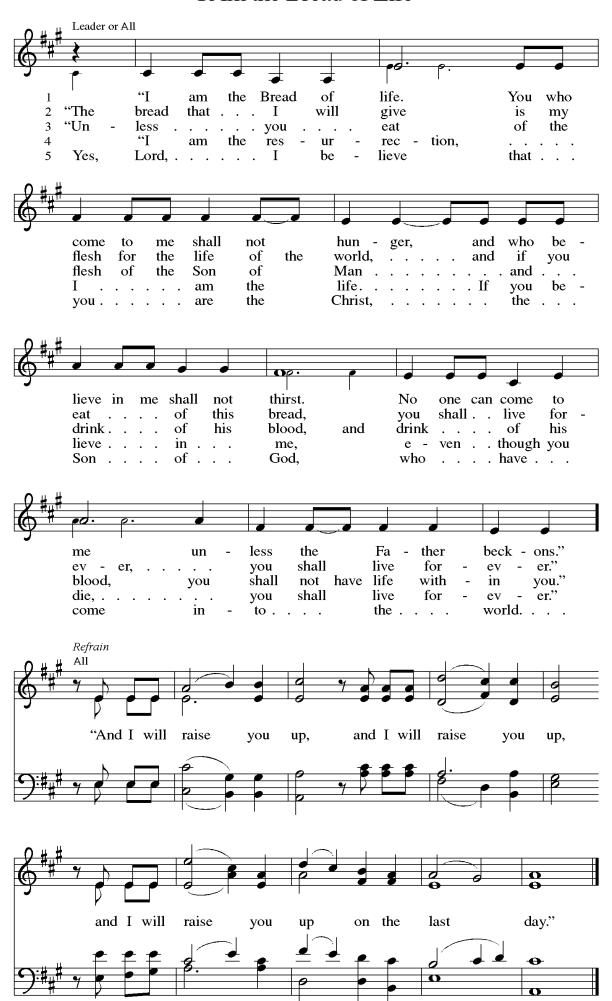
- P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,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

Sending Hymn: ELW 485 on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Go in peace to serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

I Am the Bread of Life



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 26-April 2, 2023

SUNDAY: 9:00 am: Multicultural Book Club

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Eggertsville Campus Worship and Communion

10:00 am: Sunday School 1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Monday: 4:30-5:30 pm: Daily Bread Meal Share

Tuesday: 10:00 am: Bible Study

Wednesday: 12:00 pm: Soup and Psalms

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

6:00 pm: Alanon

Saturday: Palm Weekend

9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at Amherst Lutheran Campus

5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Campus Worship and Communion

Sunday: Palm Sunday

9:00 am: Multicultural Book Club

10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV

10:00 am: Eggertsville Campus Worship and Communion

10:00 am: Sunday School 1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: Are given for the glory of God.

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Lee Abel: 71 Windsor Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209

Robert Baus: 30 Westchester Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221 Evelyn Berger: 644 Campbell Boulevard, Getzville, NY 14068

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

Janet Isaacs: #6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004 Omar Jenson: The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster, NY 14580 Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, Williamsville, NY 14221 Jon Mott: Brookdale, 6076 Main Street, #B8, Williamsville, NY 14221

Ron Wolfe: 324 Village Park Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221

Prayer List: In our congregational family and extended family (Names on this Prayer List will remain on the list for three weeks, unless the Church Office is advised they should remain longer) Greyson Knox; Joanna Heizmann; Joan Chatham; Jerry Bucklaew; Joe Falletta; Debbie Lingenfelter; Ira Striejewski; Thomas Maier; Maureen Kraus, Janet Mustard, and Sally O'Connell (Friends of Suzanne Gustafson); Rosemarie and John Burgholzer (Sponsors of Tiger's Den); Pastor Alan Anderson; Gary Schmidt; David Wolf; Patrick Irving, Jennifer Ryszkiewicz, Don Irving, and William Vogel (Friends of Sandy Simet)

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: With the addition of the Amherst Lutheran Campus (ALC) of St. Paul's, we now have two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Lutheran Campus, or Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus. Please be respectful of people around you regarding distancing and their comfort levels. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

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, anyone associated with Amherst Lutheran Campus, or by referral. The remaining March pantry hours are: Thursday 3/30 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for March are: cans of fruit, especially pineapple; canned or dried beans; crackers and granola bars.

Daily Bread Food Truck: We are successful in our Monday Meal Share mission with the help of our donors and volunteers. For more information to volunteer or donate, please contact the church office at 716-835-0407 or email dailybread4007@gmail.com.

Resettlement Mission: If you would like to help support the Resettlement Mission, donations of Visa gift cards would help provide for gaps in some of the material needs. Gift cards can be dropped off at the Church Office, or put in the offering plates on Sunday.

ALC Book Club: Please come and join us, all are welcome! The Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month in the narthex at Amherst Lutheran Campus beginning at 7:15 pm. Next meeting: Thursday, April 13, reading "We are Not Like Them" by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza.

Book Club for Black History Month/Women's History Month: Meet Sundays 19, 26 and April 2 at 9am - 9:45am. Selections from the complete collection of Zora Neale Hurston's short stories Hitting a Straight Lick with a Crooked Stick, edited by Genevieve West, Amistad (HarperCollins) 2020. We will read one story per week and talk about whether we liked it or not, how it makes us feel, black/white relationships in the stories and anything else the story makes you want to talk about. No lectures, no analysis. This format allows participants to pick and choose which Sundays they wish to attend the group.

SOUP AND PSALMS



Join Pastor Kristen on Wednesday March 29 at 12:00 pm for the last Soup and Psalms.

Bible Study: There will be no Bible Study on Tuesday April 4 or Tuesday April 11. Bible Study will resume on Tuesday April 18.



2023 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, April 1: 5:00 pm at Amherst Lutheran Campus Sunday, April 2: 10:00 am at Eggertsville Campus

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 6: 6:30 pm, Dinner Church at Eggertsville Campus

GOOD FRIDAY

April 7: 12:00 pm: Service at Eggertsville Campus

7:00 pm: Tenebrae Service at Eggertsville Campus

SATURDAY VIGIL

April 8: Easter Vigil: 5:00 pm at Amherst Lutheran Campus

EASTER SUNDAY

April 9: Sunrise Service: 6:00 am at Eggertsville Campus

Easter Worship: 10:00 am at Eggertsville Campus



+ 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

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Robert Simpson Vanessa Solomon Scott Vahue

Pastors

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org Kristen Arends (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music

Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) Adam Schmidt (ALC)

Christian Education Coordinator

June Piette

Youth Ministry

Adam Weber

Digital Ministry

Andrew Gruszka

Church Office Staff

Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary, and Judy Polowy E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.org Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.org