

*Second Sunday
in Lent*

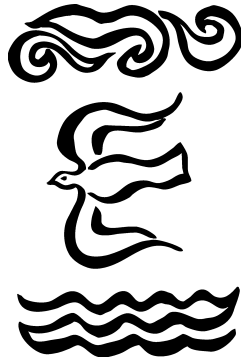


March 5, 2023

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Eggertsville Campus
Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023



Prelude Music: Paul Storfer

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.

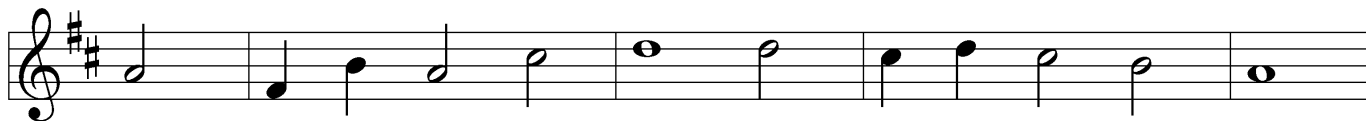
P Together, let's confess our brokenness to God. Holy One,

C we 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

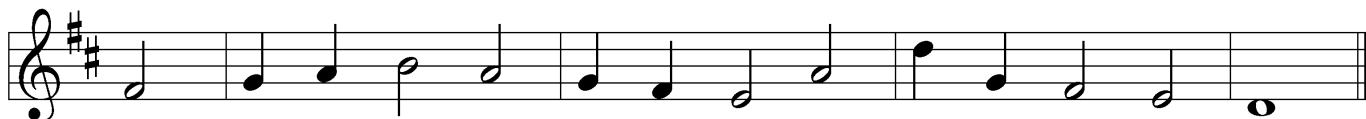
P Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, then all who call out to God from the wilderness will feel and experience God's grace and peace. When we arrive at this cross, we see the incredible love God has for us. And because of that love through Jesus' sacrifice **+**, your sins are forgiven. May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

C Amen

Breathe on Me, Breath of God



1 Breathe on me, breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, breath of God; so shall I nev - er die,



that I may love all that you love and do what you would do.
un - til with you I will one will to do and to en - dure.
but live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Edwin Hatch, 1835–1889

Music: DURHAM, Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Apostolic Greeting

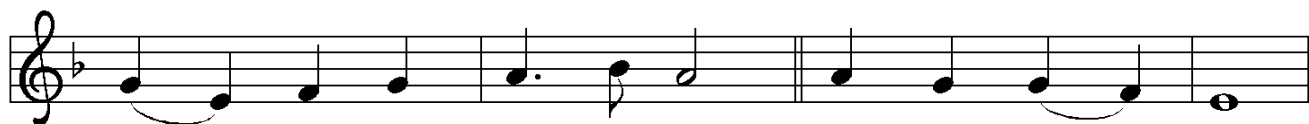
P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Christ, have mer - cy.**
Christ, . . . have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Lord, have mer - cy.**
Lord, have mer - cy:

Prayer of the Day

P O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

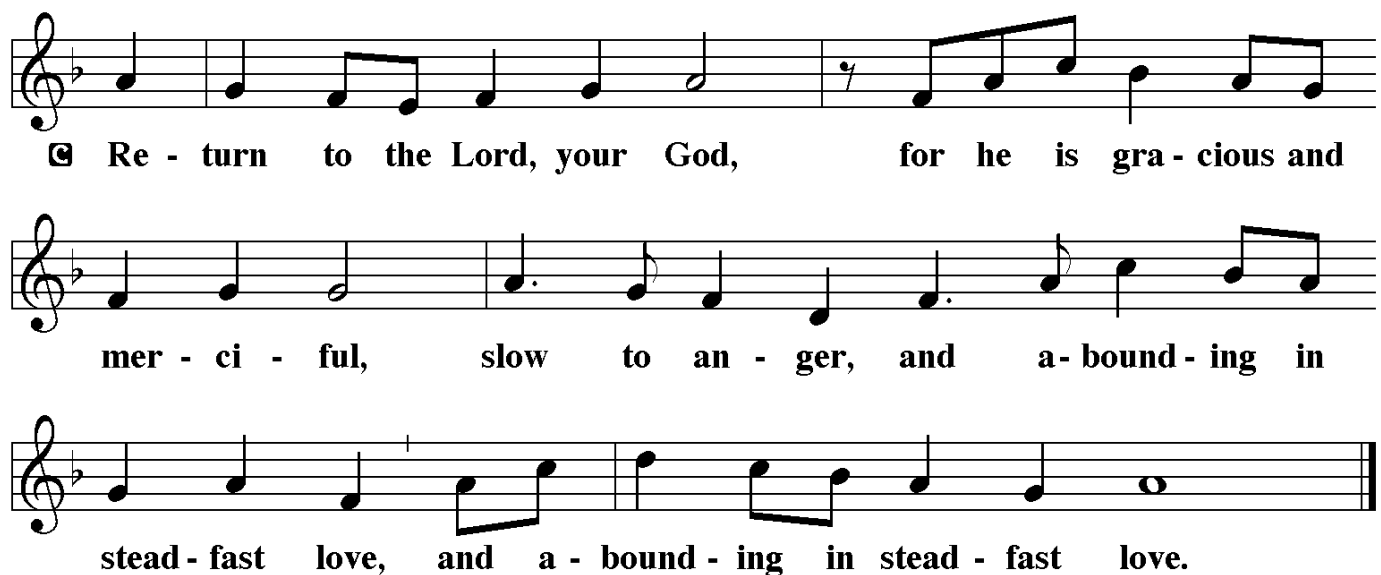
What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the

law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the Third Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 3:1-17

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be

born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: ELW 323 (on the following page)



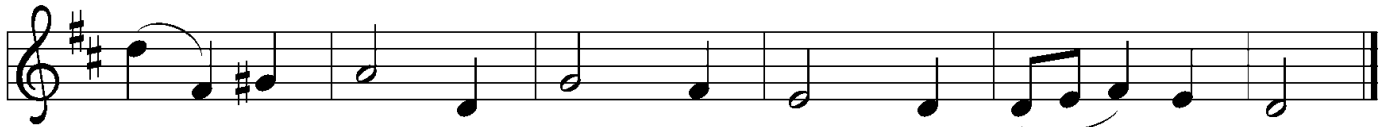
God Loved the World



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.
Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

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 Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Rescue all who are overwhelmed with stories of war between nations, mass shootings, racial and gender hatred. Turn the tides Lord. Bless all those who are in the middle of these tragic events and use us to dismantle this hatred and evil and replace these stories with examples of justice, grace, and unity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress, especially the people on our Prayer Lists and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; 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 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 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.

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...

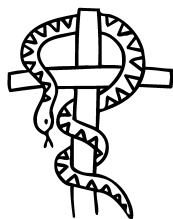
C Amen

Closing Hymn: ELW 660 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.



Lift High the Cross



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 5-12, 2023

- TODAY:** 9:00 am: Multicultural Book Club
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: Diversity Meeting
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 4:30-5:30 pm: Daily Bread Meal Share
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
- Wednesday:** 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting
12:00 pm: Soup and Psalms
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 6:00 pm: Alanon
7:15 pm: Book Club at ALC
- Saturday:** 8:30-9:30 am: Men's Breakfast
9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at Amherst Lutheran Campus
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: Amherst Lutheran Campus In-Person Worship and Communion
- Sunday:** 9:00 am: Multicultural Book Club
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: In-Person Worship and Communion
10:00 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: CPR Training
11:15 am-12:15 pm: First Communion Training
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

The Altar Flowers: Are given to 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

Omar Jenson: The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster, NY 14580

Dorothy Menth: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 383, 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)

Pastor Alan Anderson; Gary Schmidt; David Wolf; Patrick Irving; Jennifer Ryszkiewicz, Don Irving, and William Vogel (all friends of Sandy Simet); Alison Silsby; Susan Epstein; Thomas Maier; Ira Striejewske; Sue Gustafson; Joan Chatham; Wolfgang Krecklow; Jerry Bucklaew; Jon Mott; Laura Sweet; Wilma Nantka; Joe Falletta; Janet Mustard; Bob Baker; Robin Schultz; Eva Carlson; Debbie Lingenfelter; Michelle Kasprzyk; Sharon Arbogast; Cheri Petrus

Deacon Schedule: 3/5: Sara Gallagher; 3/12: Barbara Walter

Usher Schedule: 3/5: Rick Riddoch & Gerry Keppel; 3/12: Bob & Karen Brown

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 March pantry hours are: Thursdays 3/2, 3/16, and 3/30 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturdays 3/11 and 3/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 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. Upcoming Book Club meetings and reading selections: Thursday, March 9, reading "Redwall" by Brian Jacques; Thursday, April 13, reading "We are Not Like Them" by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza.



Annette Adamczak will again be joining us to offer Hands-Only CPR training following the Sunday, March 12 service at St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus. If you are interested attending, please sign up on the board posted in the Gathering Area. Training will begin at 11:00 am and should run for approximately one hour.

Book Club for Black History Month/Women's History Month
Meet Sundays March 5, 12, 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 Wednesdays in March at 12:00 pm for a time of sharing soup and scripture.

SPAGHETTI DINNER



The Youth Group will host their Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 18 from 4:00-7:00 pm. If you love to bake, we could use desserts to share after dinner. We are also in need of donations for the Basket Raffle. For additional information, please contact Adam Weber at aweber308@yahoo.com.



FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion training will be held on Sunday, March 12 from 11:15 am-12:15 pm. Parents are welcome to stay. First Communion will take place during the Sunday worship service on March 19.



*+ 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: Cell: 716-868-1232; Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.org
Kristen Arends: Cell: 716-481-8728; 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

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