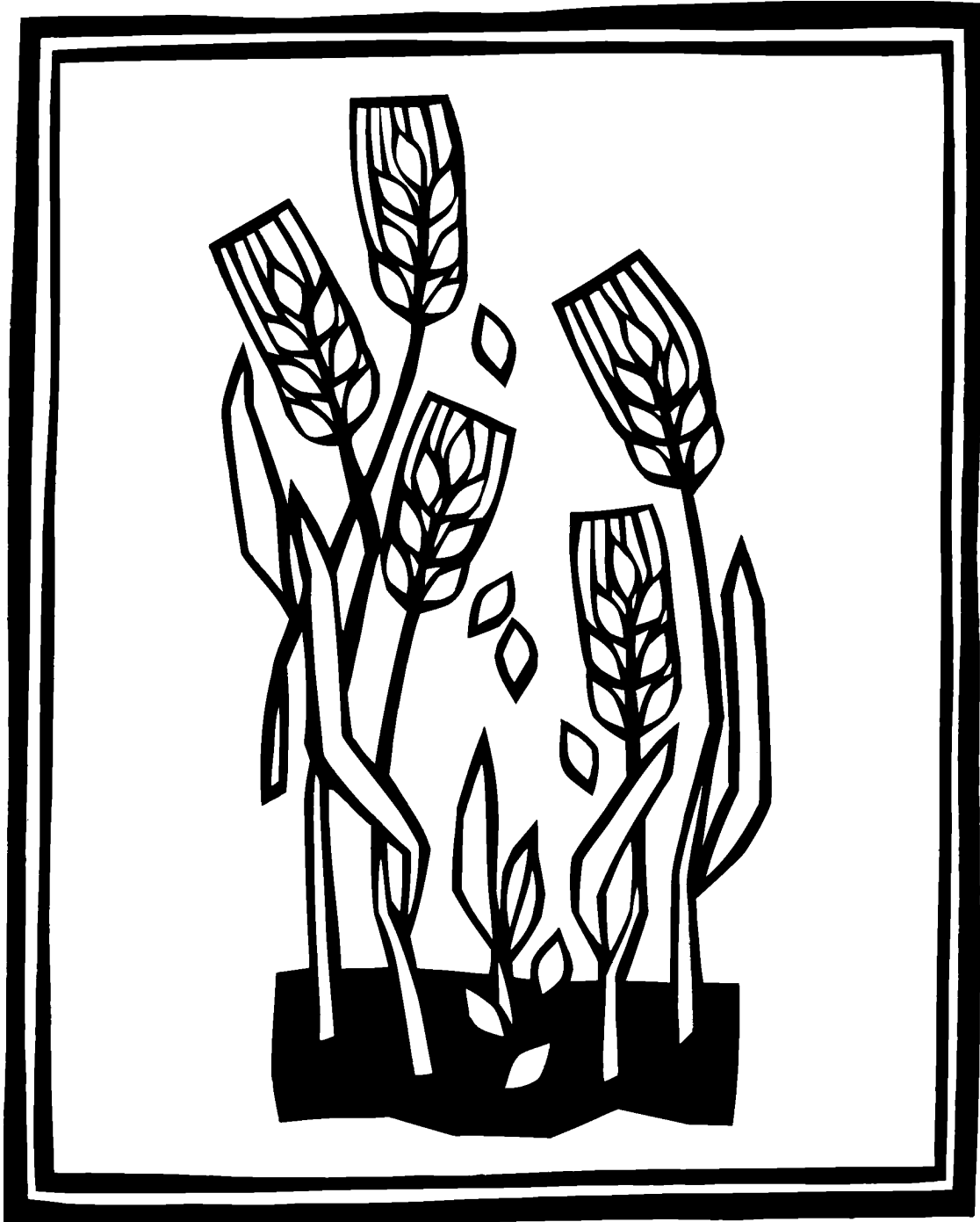


Fifth Sunday in Lent

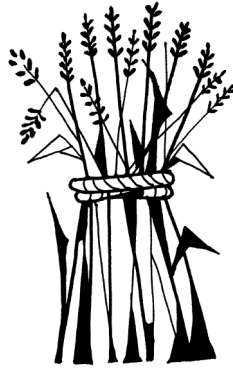


March 17, 2024

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Egbertsville Campus
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024*



Musician: Paul Storfer

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C Amen.

P Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

C we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P Friends, hear about God's grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ. So your sins are forgiven in the name of Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

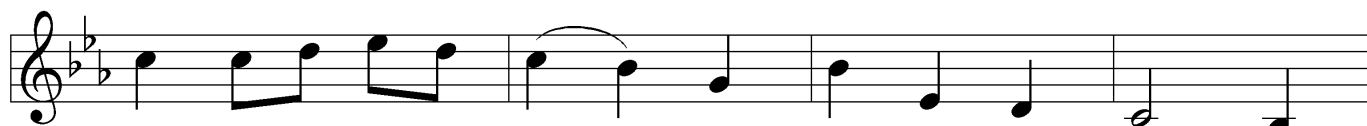
Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r,
thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish 8th–10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.
Music: SLANE, Irish tune

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.

Open our eyes, Lord

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff at various points. The lyrics are: "O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see Je - sus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. O - pen our ears, Lord, and help us to lis - ten. O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus."

O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see

Je - sus, to reach out and touch

him, and say that we love him.

O - pen our ears, Lord, and help us to

lis - ten. O - pen our eyes,

Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

Prayer of the Day

P O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms 51:1-12 (read responsively)

A Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

A For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

C Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

A Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

C Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

A Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

A Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

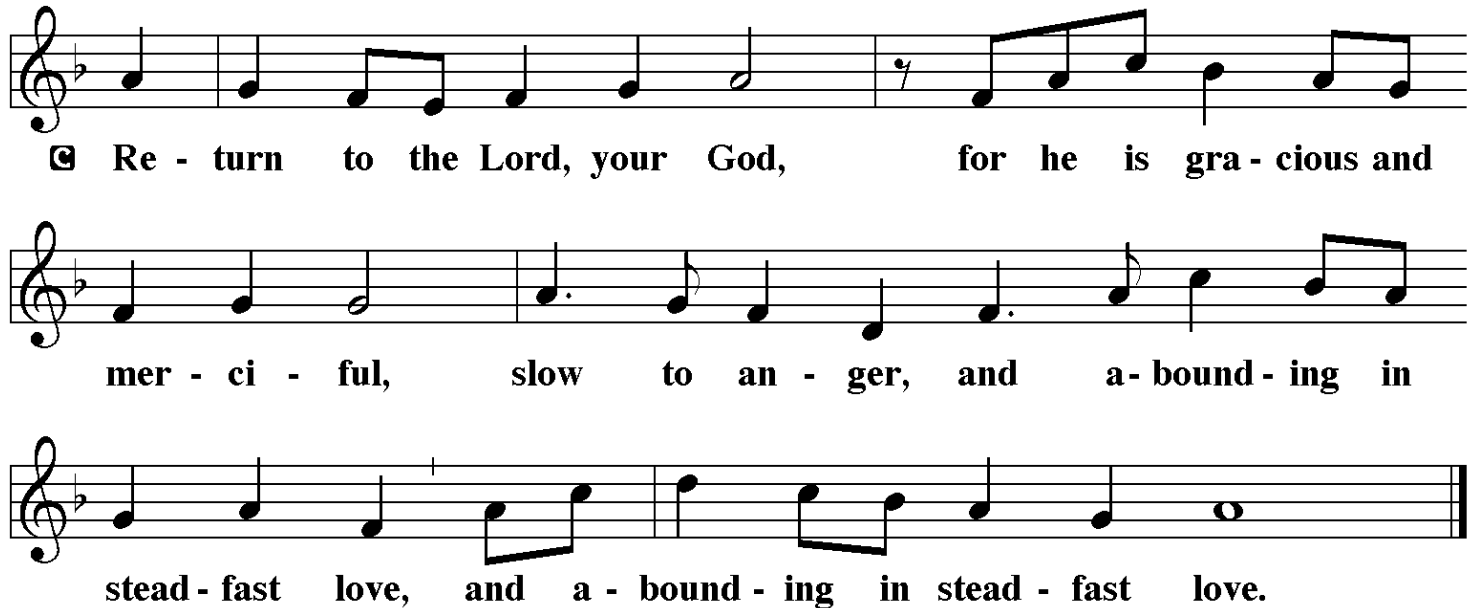
C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

A Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

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

Gospel Acclamation



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 12th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 12:20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your

name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: WOV 705

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
 gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
 all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Apostle's Creed

P Let's join to proclaim our faith together using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. We pray especially for the people named on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation. Move us to reach out to any who are home bound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us, especially Patrick, missionary to Ireland, whom we commemorate today. Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

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 Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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 Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus 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: LBW 469 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 17-24, 2024

* Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus *

- Sunday:** 8:50-9:30 am: No Adult Forum—Will restart April 7
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
10:00 am: First Communion of:
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
11:00 am-1:00 pm: Family Fun Day at Eggertsville Campus
- Monday:** 4:30-5:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
1:30-3:30 pm: GriefShare Meeting
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main Meeting (NA)
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
- Wednesday:** 10:00 am-3:00 pm: Prayer Group Retreat at ALC (Karin Johnson)
12:00 pm: Lenten Soup & Psalms
6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II
- Saturday:** **Palm Weekend**
9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at ALC
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at ALC
- Sunday:** **Palm Weekend**
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at ALC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
11:00 am: New Missionary Orientation
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Altar Flowers: Are given for the glory of God.

We share our sympathy and prayers with the family of Ted Bland (Andrew Bland's father)

Deacons: 3/17: John Schunak; 3/24: Martin Troutman

Ushers: 3/17: Ben Brown & Jeff Mols; 3/24: Mimi & Scott Fierle

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

Ruth Blank: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 374, Williamsville, NY 14221

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

Marilyn Emerson: 33 Northfield Drive, Snyder, NY 14226

Douglas Endres: 26 Sovereign Court, Getzville, NY 14068
John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031
Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004
Omar Jenson: The Maplewood, 100 Daniel Drive, Webster, NY 14580
Dave Lampe: Elmwood, IL (no additional details)
Elaine Masman: Doseberg Campus, Room 120, 2700 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068
Ralph Mast: 150 Bissel Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14211
Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Rd., #54, Williamsville, NY 14221
Marion Niblock: Beechwood Rehab, 2235 Millersport Highway, #714, Getzville, NY 14068
Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221
David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051
Ron Wolfe: 324 Village Park Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221
Jane Woodward: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Sandy Simet; Thomas Maier; Chad Israel; Sarah and Brian Maloney

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Lutheran Campus, and 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 Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

ALC Book Club: Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 11, beginning at 7:15 pm in the Gathering Room at Amherst Lutheran Campus. All are welcome! The book for April will be announced next week. Contact me if you have any questions. Karin Johnson (716-689-6365 or karinej@roadrunner.com.)

Prayer Team Ministry: Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Heidi at: Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com






Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The pantry hours for March have been adjusted to conform to FeedMore WNY requirements. March hours are Saturday 3/23 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm; and Thursday 3/28 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for March: flour, sugar, and cooking oil.

Lenten Lunches and Devotions: Wednesdays from 12:00-12:45 pm. Psalms of Prayer: **March 20:** Psalm 31- "Into your hands O Lord I commend my spirit" Pastor Steve and Pastor Kristen, Prayer Focus: all who grieve. Please consider bringing a pot of soup for one of the weeks. The Sign Up sheet is in the Gathering Area.



First Communion Students: On Sunday, March 10 the following students completed their First Communion Training, and will make their First Communion within the next few weeks:

*Lilah Grace Spinuzza
Andrew Thomas Wieczorek
Luke W. Bartholomew
Jordan G. Dwyer
Levi M. Davis
Weston D. Dowse
Colton S. Aprile*

Holy Week Schedule				
				
Palm Sunday Sat/Sun March 23/24	Maundy Thursday March 28	Good Friday March 29	Holy Saturday March 30	Easter Sunday March 31
Stripping of the Altar	Pot Luck Dinner	Solemn Services	Easter Vigil	Sunrise Service
Sat @ALC 5:00 pm	@SPEC 6:30 pm	@SPEC 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm	@ALC 5:00 pm	@SPEC 6:00 am
Sun@ SPEC 10:00 am				2nd Service 10:00 am



*How do palms for Palm Sunday go from
Bud to Single Palms to Palm Crosses?*

Join Judi Gersic & Mary Wolf

*Saturday March 23 – 10:00-11:00 am in the Gathering Area
to see how it's done. All Ages Welcome!*



**MARCH
17**

St. Patrick's Day
FAMILY FUN
Pot Luck

*Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day
with us on March 17th from 11-1pm. Games,
snacks/drinks, and a service project to benefit
the homeless in our area.*

*Please sign your family up on the bulletin board
in the gathering area or text Sara H.
(716) 310- 3542 by March 10th!*



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR FOOD MINISTRY

Can you help the Daily Break Food Truck on a
Saturday morning from 8:45 am - 11:00 am?

or

Can you help the DBFT deliver to the Kevin Guest
House on the first Tuesday of the month?

Even one time would be so appreciated.

Thank you.

Email Leslie: Lesliejo1043@gmail.com



People experiencing homelessness walk an average of 10 miles a day. Clean socks are critical to foot health.



"So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."
John 13:14

Donations of new socks can be dropped off at church. Or donations made online for bulk purchases.



St. Paul's will be collecting new pairs of socks for the homeless throughout Lent. There will be a donation box in each church.



*+ 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: Robert Simpson
Treasurer: William Niblock
Secretary: Scott Vahue*

*Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein
Sara Hannon Gerri Horton Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon*

Pastors

*Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com
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.com
Telephone: (716) 835-0407
Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com*