Fourth Sunday of Easter



April 21, 2024 10:00 am St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Eggertsville Campus Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024



Musician: Paul Storfer

Thanksgiving for Baptism

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C Amen.
- P Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life. Look, here is water!

C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

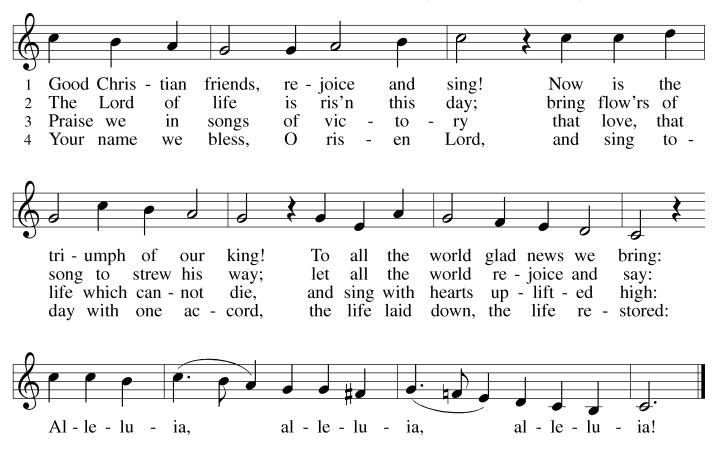
P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

- P Look, here is water!
- C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Opening Hymn: LBW 144

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872–1955, alt. Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

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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

- P O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he can proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

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

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

- A The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- C The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- A You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- C Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- A You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- C Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

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



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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- P The Holy Gospel according to John the 10th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: LBW 456 (on the following page)



The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877 Music: ST. COLUMBA, Irish tune

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Holy Baptism

Presentation

P In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Sponsors present the candidate:

P Sponsors, who do you present for Baptism?

Response: We present Rylee Jade Washburn for Holy Baptism.

The presiding minister addresses the parents:

P Michael and Ashlea, in Christian love you have presented Rylee for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and the Creed. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to help Rylee grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: We do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

P Gwendolyn and Dominic, do you promise to nurture Rylee in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of her baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: We do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

- P People of God, do you promise to support Rylee and pray for her in her new life in Christ?
- C We do.

Prayers of the Church

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

Shepherding God, gather your church whenever we wander from you and one another. Empower our church in ministries around the world to worship and serve alongside global companions as equal partners and coworkers in the gospel. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Nurturing God, preserve the health of your creation. Inspire scientists, researchers, conservation organizations, and all people entrusted with the task of caring for creation, that we may be better stewards of the world around us. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Almighty God, lead nations and communities to share resources, and cooperate in solving conflicts especially in the Middle East. Help all those with power to share it and to use such power for good. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Loving God, protect the very young and the very old, those living without housing, victims of domestic abuse, and all who live with chronic illness or compromised immune systems. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Guide communities to actively care for people who are vulnerable. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

- A Gracious God, help this and all communities of faith to listen for your voice. Call us away from things that distract us from following you. Invite us to more deeply love and serve people who are lonely, isolated, and on the margins. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.

- A Living God, we give thanks for our ancestors in faith. Strengthen us to share the good news in our own day. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- A Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.
- C Amen



Thanksgiving

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- Р Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that Rylee who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away her sin by this cleansing water and bring her forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C Amen

Renunciation

- P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.
- P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
- C I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- C I renounce them.

Profession

- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C 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.
- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C 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

Baptism

P Rylee, you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



Laying on of Hands

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Rylee: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.
- C Amen

Signing with the Cross

P Rylee, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen



Giving of the Light

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Welcome

- P Through Baptism, God has made Rylee a new member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.
- C We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow missionary in God's church, child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God. Amen

(Congregation joins in singing: Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me, yes Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.)

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

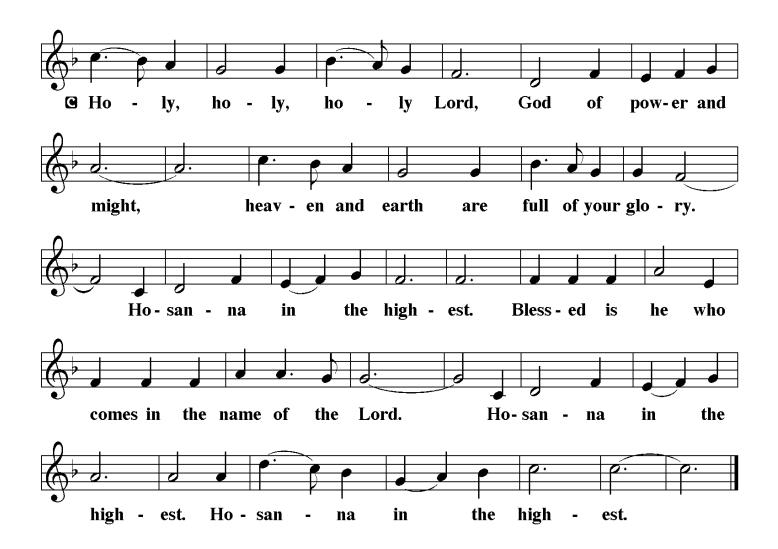
- In-Person Worship: Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- Giving by Mail: If you are not able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will 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 Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here and in our planned giving be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. 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 sing their unending hymn:



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

<u>Holy Communion at St. Paul's</u>: 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 Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.
- 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: ELW 789(on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: April 21-28, 2024

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

Sunday:	8:50-9:30 am: Adult Forum
	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.
	Baptism of Rylee Jade Washburn
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
Monday:	4:30-5:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
Tuesday:	10:00 am: Bible Study
-	5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main Meeting (NA)
	7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
Wednesday	: 6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
	8:00 pm: AA Meeting
Thursday:	6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II
Saturday:	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:	8:50-9:30 am: Adult Forum
	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-12:30 pm: Meeting of National Youth Gathering Team
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Altar Flowers: Are given in memory of David Striejewske by Ira, Debbie, Don and Michele Striejewske

Deacons: 4/21: Barbara Walter; 4/28: Sara Gallagher *Ushers:* 4/21: Gerri Horton & Helen Gibson; 4/28:

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Marilyn Emerson (currently in hospice care); Annette Brzezicki; Thomas Maier; Brian Maloney

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week) Ruth Blank: 2330 Maple Road, Apt. 374, Williamsville, NY 14221 Kathryn Brown: 57 Evans Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086 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: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529 Elaine Masman: Doseberg Campus, Room 120, 2700 North Forest Rd., Getzville, NY 14068 *Ralph Mast and Edwina Stubbs: 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, #542, 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

PREVIOUS 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.

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

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 remaining pantry hours for April are: Saturday 4/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for April are: soup, toilet paper, and paper towels.

On behalf of the Piette/Maloney families we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who donated gift cards for our calendar fund raiser!



We truly appreciate all the love, prayers and support!



The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place following the worship service on Sunday, May 5, 2024. If you are a member, your vote counts, so please plan on joining your fellow missionaries at the annual meeting.

DID YOU KNOW

- We have a Nursery and a Mom's nursing room.
- There is a wall TV so that you can watch the 10:00 am service.
- The nursery is for 0 24 months and is monitored by you, the parent.
- Nursery room is in the lower
- k level and is cleaned every week

Sunday School is for 3 years - 5th Grade Call the office for information at 716-835-0407



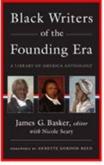


In May, Lois O'Brian will be leading a discussion on mini-writings, from the book, Black Writers

Black Writers of the Founding

Era. St. Paul's will have multiple copies of this book in the office.

Please email: Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com to register. We will make sure there is a book for you. This book was chosen in recognition of Black History/Women's History months.





+ 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

Pastoral Leaders

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

<u>Directors of Music</u>: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (ALC) <u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette <u>Youth Ministry</u>: Adam Weber <u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka <u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

> <u>Church Office Staff</u> Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary, and Judy Thomas E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226 Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am Amherst Lutheran Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221 Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm

NAVIGATING SENIOR LIVING OPTIONS: (6:30 - 7)

Mary Nelson, BPHE, CDP

This session will help you understand options and different levels of care so you will be better educated and prepared for the future.

HEALTHCARE DECISION-MAKING, ADVANCE CARE PLANNING (7-7:30)

Deborah Waldrop, LMSW, PhD. Professor Emerita, UB School of Social Work

This session will focus on the documents (e.g. NYS Healthcare Proxy, NYS Living Will, MOLST, Five Wishes) that are available to assist as we make decisions about the healthcare we want and do not want when we are unable to speak for ourselves because of illness.

HOSPICE CARE: WHEN, WHERE, HOW? (7-8:30)

Susan Gibbons, RN, CHPN, Parish Nurse, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

This session will address what hospice care is and is not, when a referral is helpful and how to have a conversation about hospice admission.

PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL (8-8:30)

Reverand Ashlin Marchese, St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

This session will be one that will offer grace and peace to those loved ones left to plan our funerals. FINDING GRACE IN LIFE'S TRANSTIONS

TUESDAY MAY 14TH 6:30PM-8:30PM



68 EAGLE STREET WILLIAMSVILLE, NY

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: STPAULSWILLIAMSVILLE.ORG

