

Fifth Sunday of Easter



April 28, 2024

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Egbertsville Campus
Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 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!

A New Commandment

A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you, that you love one an - oth-er as
I have loved you, that you love one an - oth-er as I have loved you.
By this shall peo - ple know you are my dis - ci - ples, if
you have love one for an - oth - er; by this shall peo-ple know
you are my dis - ci-ples: if you have love one for an - oth - er.

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 God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through 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: Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:25-31 (read responsively)

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

A From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

- C** The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts live forever!
- A** All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families
of nations shall bow before God.
- C** For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.
- A** Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down
to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
- C** Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to
generations to come.
- A** They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them,
"The LORD has acted!"
- A** This is the Word of the Lord
- C** Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do

not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



P The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:1-8

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; let us all in
all thy life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re -
spot - less let us be; let us see thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
thee in - her - it; let us find thy prom - ised rest.
turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee!



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un -
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in



bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Apostle's Creed

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:

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 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. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Keep all the newly baptized and confirmed in your care. Cleanse our hearts with your word and help us to abide in you always. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A For the well-being of the earth and of all created things: for rivers and lakes, streams and estuaries, melting glaciers and polluted waters. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

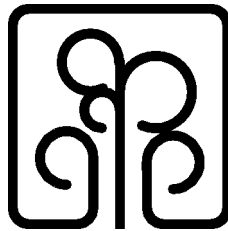
A For the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A For all those in need: for any experiencing homelessness or unemployment, for those fleeing from oppression or seeking asylum, and for all who are ill or suffering, especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

- A For this congregation: for the caring ministries of this faith community, for all who visit and minister to one another, for all who take communion to homes or care centers, and for all who seek to share your love with the world. 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



Offering Music and Prayer

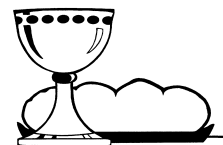
Ways to Give to St. Paul's

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 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.

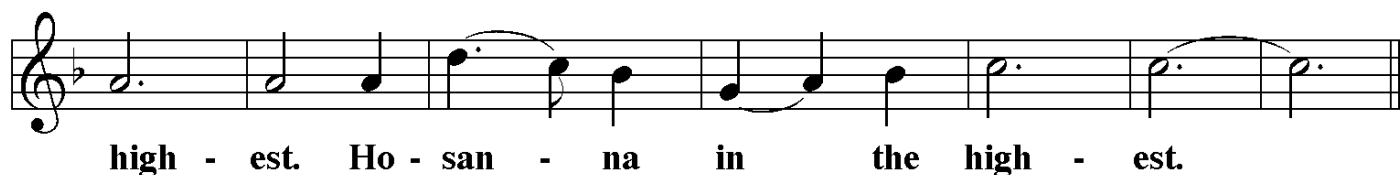
P Lift up your hearts.

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

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 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...

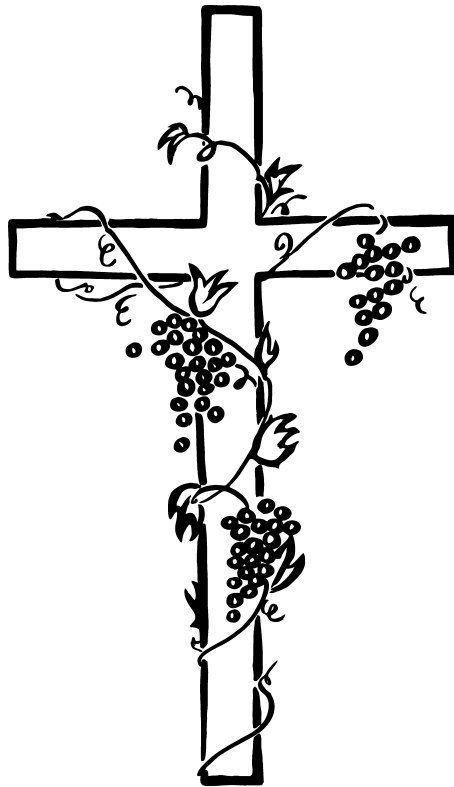
C Amen

Closing Hymn: LBW 260 (on the following page)

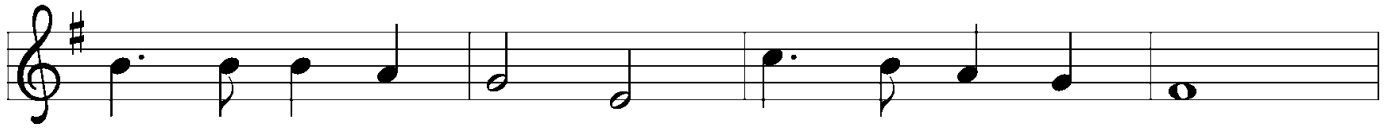
Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



On Our Way Rejoicing



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.

Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: April 28–May 5, 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
11:00 am-12:30 pm: Meeting of National Youth Gathering Team
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** 4:30-5:30 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
- Tuesday:** 6:00 am-9:00 pm: Voting: Special Election—26th Congressional District
10:00 am: No Bible Study
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main Meeting (NA)
- Wednesday:** 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group
6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II
7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at ALC
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at ALC followed by Family Night
6:00-9:00 pm: Youth Night 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: Church Council Annual Meeting and Elections
11:30 am: Confirmation Class at St. Paul's
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Altar Flowers: Are given for the glory of God.

Deacons: 4/28: Sara Gallagher; 5/5: Martin Troutman

Ushers: 4/28: Karen & Bob Brown; 5/5: Richard Riddoch & Todd Vahue

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Martin Burch (Lois O'Brian's brother); Pastor Tim Madsen; Alisha Barnes; Marilyn Emerson (currently in hospice care); 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, is associated with Amherst Lutheran Campus of St. Paul's, or by referral. The pantry hours for May are: Thursdays 5/2, 5/16, and 5/30 from 3:00-6:30 pm, and Saturdays 5/11 and 5/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for May: spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, and cereal.



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

St. Paul's Bike Blessing - May 19th: 11am-12pm

Bring your bikes and helmet for a blessing for the season.

Wheels for Workers will be onsite for small tune-ups
and teaching tire repair.

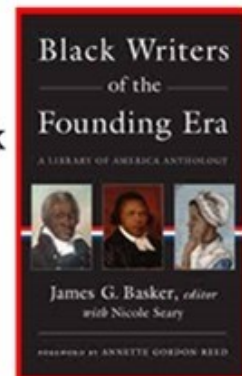
Hot dogs - breakfast bowls - sides - drinks

4007 Main St - Eggertsville - 14226



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



**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.

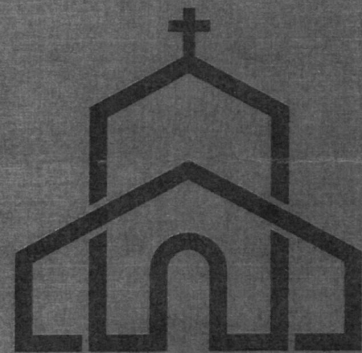
**PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL
(8-8:30)**

Reverend 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**

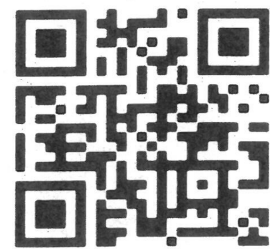
**TUESDAY MAY 14TH
6:30PM-8:30PM**



**ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**68 EAGLE STREET
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY**

**FOR MORE INFO VISIT:
STPAULSWILLIAMSVILLE.ORG**





*+ 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*

Directors of Music: *Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (ALC)*

Christian Education Coordinator: *June Piette*

Youth Ministry: *Adam Weber*

Digital Ministry: *Andrew Gruszka*

Facilities Manager: *Jeff Stein*

Church Office Staff

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