

Second Sunday of Easter



April 7, 2024

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Eggertsville Campus
Second Sunday of Easter
April 7, 2024*

Musician: Paul Storfer

Litany of April 7th - Creation/Light/Darkness/Light

P We worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P Gracious Creator, through your creative power, you started this whole story off. You made a space for humanity to live into and blossom. You gave us light in our darkness. But just as we will experience tomorrow, the light can be eclipsed. Blocked out by sin, brokenness, and pain. So we come to you as a community today to recognize that the Creation still needs your help, guidance and intervention. Here our desire and prayers as we are reminded of your story again.

C: Amen

Genesis 1:24-31

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

P God who made us:

C We confess to you that many times we have not lived up to this story. Your love, beauty, creation, and light are laid out before us and have been since the beginning. However, sometimes our own actions eclipse your light and love for the world. Forgive us when we don't nourish the creation. Forgive when we forget to love our neighbors. Forgive us when we hoard and don't share the fruits you have given us. As a community of imperfect missionaries, we look for your grace.

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

P Hear this good news: Our imperfections and shortcomings might temporarily eclipse the light, but they will NEVER overcome it. We stand on this side of Easter with a resurrected Lord, who conquered death itself. Therefore, know this deep in your hearts today, in whatever darkness you might find yourself - you are loved by that resurrected Lord and it is an honor and privilege to announce to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C Amen

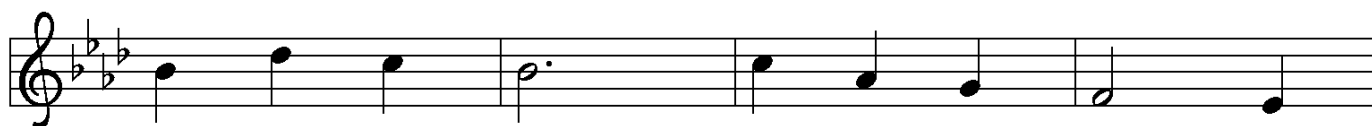
Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!



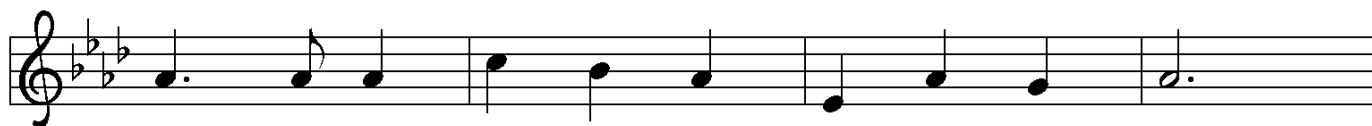
1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

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 Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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 4:32-35

While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

Psalm 133 (read responsively)

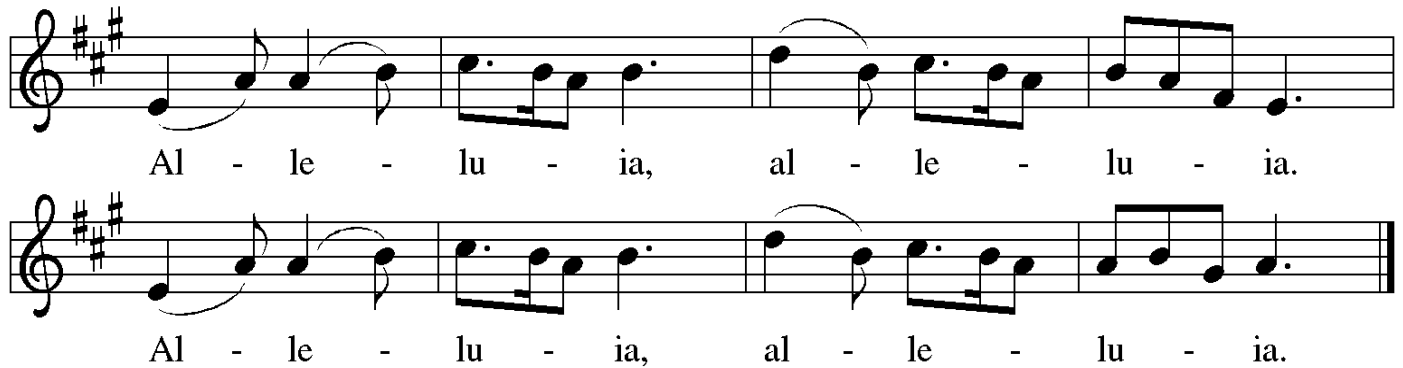
How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity. (Ps. 133:1)

- A How good and how pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
- C It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.

- A It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion. For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.
- 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 20th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

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

Hymn of the Day: WOV 675

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in

gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.



*Today we welcome the following New Missionaries to
St. Paul's: Deborah Ogden, Sue Cudmore, Alain and Mary
Bashore, Sheila Figel and Sean Dwyer, Cheryl Shepker, and
Deirdre and Mark Bartholomew*

Reception of New Missionaries

P These people have come to us from other communities and congregations and desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism. Dear friends, we rejoice to receive you, members of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, into our fellowship in the Gospel.

Apostles' Creed

A 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.

Your church cries out, O God, and you listen. As you drew near to the disciples, draw near to us this day. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit, that our faith is renewed and we witness to your love. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Your creation cries out, O God, and you listen. Nurture creation and all growing things. Guide farmers, gardeners, arborists, and others who tend the soil and nurture plants into life. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Your world cries out, O God, and you listen. Guide police, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders to work for the well-being of communities and the dignity of every person, that no one may need to live in fear. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Your children cry out, O God, and you listen. Hear your people crying out for justice, for an end to racism and other oppression, and for a world where all are fed and safe. We pray for all who cry out in suffering or pain, especially 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 Your congregations cry out, O God, and you listen. Renew pastors, deacons, musicians, and other staff, administrators, and volunteers who facilitated Holy Week and Easter worship. Open our hearts to discern where God calls each of us to serve. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Accept our gratitude, O God, for the lives of those who now rest in you. Grant us your peace amid our fears. 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.



P Brothers, sisters, and siblings in Christ: in Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You have made public affirmation of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

- to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P Let us pray:

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you claimed these people as children of God. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let's welcome our newest missionaries.

C We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and missionaries with us here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

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 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

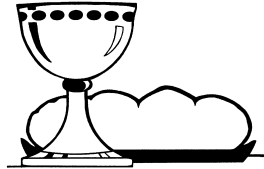
P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 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: WOV 673

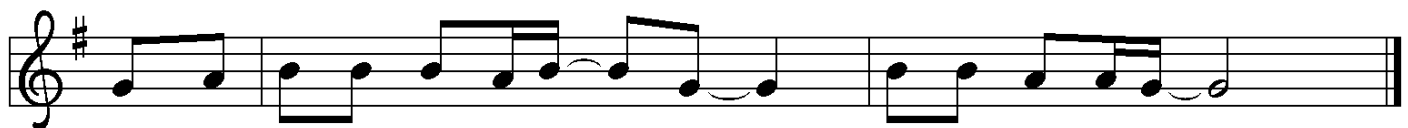
I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace to serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: April 7-14, 2024

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

- Sunday:** 8:50-9:30 am: Adult Forum Resumes
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 and Communion; No Sunday School Today
10:00 am: Welcome New Missionaries
11:30 am: Confirmation Class at Parkside Lutheran
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope
- Monday:** **Church Office Closed**
No Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share Today
- 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 pm: Church Council Meeting
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
- Wednesday:** 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting
12:00 pm: Staff Meeting
6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II
7:15 pm: ALC Book Club Meeting
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at ALC
9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
10:00 am-12:00 pm: Memorial Visitation for Jane Woodward
12:00 pm: Funeral Service for Jane Woodward
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
10:00 am: Baptism of Griffin David Weber
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Altar Flowers: Are given for the glory of God.

Deacons: 4/7: John Schunak; 4/14: Martin Troutman

Ushers: 4/7: Ellen Herdman & Jim Tanevich; 4/14: Robin Miano & Sharon Adimey

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Annette Brzezicki; Susan Murphy (Sue Miller's friend); 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

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

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: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529

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, #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

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

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. On the first Tuesday of each month, drivers are needed to deliver 20-25 meals prepared by Daily Bread to the residents of Kevin Guest House. The best time to deliver is between 10 am-Noon. It takes about 1 hour to get the food at church, deliver to KGH and return. Due to health concerns, KGH does not expect drivers to stay and visit. If you are interested in participating in this food ministry, please see sign-up sheet in the Gathering Room.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The pantry hours for April are: Thursday 4/18 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 4/13 and 4/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for April are: soup, toilet paper, and paper towels.



*First Communion Students: On Saturday, April 6, the following students made their
First Communion at St. Paul's Amherst Lutheran Campus:*

Lilah Grace Spinuzza

Andrew Thomas Wiczorek

Colton S. Aprile



**There will be a viewing for Jane Woodward
on Saturday, April 13 from 10:00 am - noon.
At: St. Paul's Lutheran Church
4007 Main St.
Egbertsville, NY 14224**

**A memorial service will take place
following the viewing at 12:00 noon.**



*+ 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)
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*