Sixth Saturday of Easter



May 4, 2024 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst Lutheran Campus

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Lutheran Campus Sixth Saturday after Easter May 4, 2024



Musician: Adam Schmidt

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!

Gathering Hymn: WOV 742

Come, We That Love the Lord *We're Marching to Zion*



- 1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
- 2 Let those re fuse to sing who nev er knew our God;
- 3 The hill of Zi on yields a thou-sand sa cred sweets
- 4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev-'ry tear be dry;



join with sweet ac - cord, join with a song in song King, but but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly chil - dren the offore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the we're march-ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march-ing through Im -



sweet ac-cord and thus sur-round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne. heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad. heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold-en streets, or walk the gold-en streets. man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.





we're march-ing up-ward to Zi - on, the beau-ti-ful cit-y of God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, refrain Music: MARCHING TO ZION, Robert Lowry

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

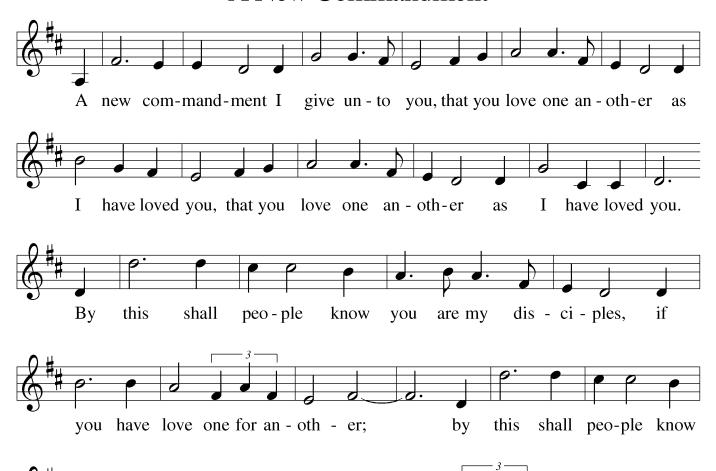
P O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Praise Hymn: WOV 664

you are my dis - ci-ples: if





you have love one for an - oth - er.

Today's Reader: Janet Schmidt

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

Psalm 98 (read responsively)

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands. (Ps. 98:4)

- A Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- C O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- A You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- C Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- A Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- C With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.
- A Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.
- C Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.
- A The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

God's children believe that Jesus is the Messiah and love God by keeping God's commandments. Thus the world is conquered not through military might but through love and faith.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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

Gospel Hymn: TFF 26

Alleluia



Music: South African; arr. Gobingca Mxadana Arr. © Gobingca Mxadana

- P The Holy Gospel according to John the 15th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 15:9-17

On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.

[Jesus said:] "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

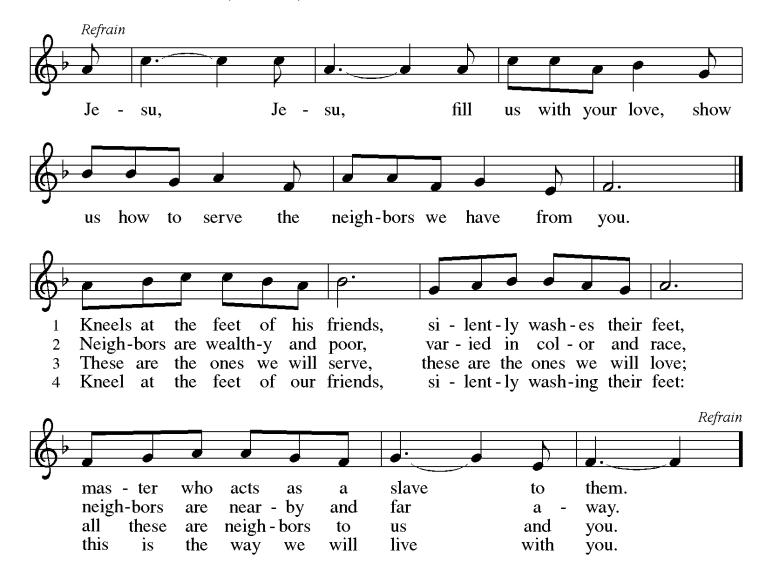
- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Sermon Hymn: WOV 765 (on the following page)

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love



Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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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

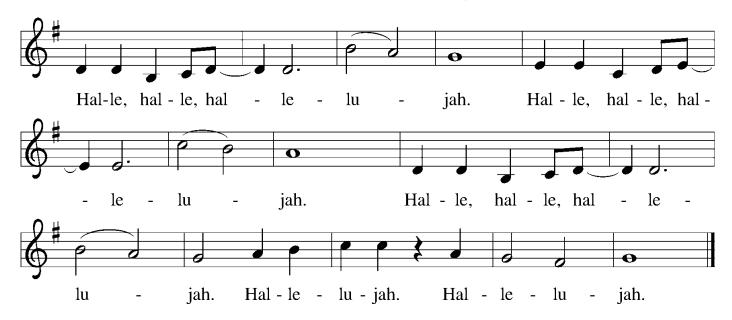
Prayers of the Church

- P 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 be seated.) Your Holy Spirit falls upon all who hear the word. Fill your church with the gifts of your Spirit and give understanding hearts to those who strengthen our commitments with our ecumenical and interreligious partners. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P You speak and the face of the earth is renewed. Revive your creation, that habitats and every kind of living thing might flourish. Protect endangered species and help us to care for all your creatures. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Your world is divided and the nations rage. Grant wisdom and vision to world leaders, that they may seek justice, peace, and the good of all. Strengthen international partnerships and cooperation. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Your children are in need. Comfort all those who suffer, especially those afflicted by anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Help us to be conduits of your love in our care for one another. We pray especially for the people on our Prayers Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.

- P Your work is done in this place with our hands. Bless the ministries of this congregation, that we may embody your love for the world. Inspire those who plan and lead worship, council members, committee members, and volunteers. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Your blessed saints now rest in you. Give us thankful hearts for those who have gone before us. At the last, bring us all together around your heavenly banquet table. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P 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 Hymn: WOV 612





Music: Caribbean traditional

Offering Prayer

- 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

Ways to Give to St. Paul's

Here are a couple of options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- In-Person Worship: Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- Giving by Mail: If you are not able to attend worship in person, please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: On the St. Paul's website is a link to Online Giving which will allow you to donate either via PayPal or credit card. Click the Online Giving button and you will be taken to the site to set up an account, where to direct your donation, and the amount you want to donate. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/

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 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:
- 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



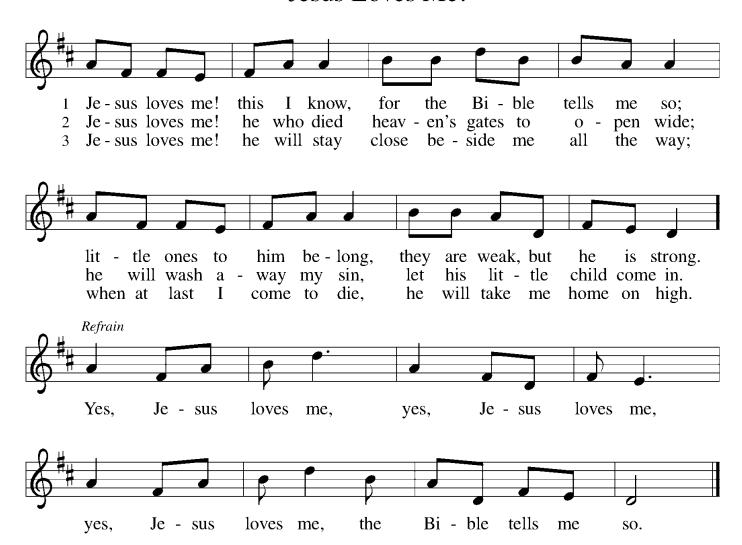


Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

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.

Distribution Hymn: ELW 595

Jesus Loves Me!



Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

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.

Blessing

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
- C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!
- P The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.
- C Amen

Sending Hymn: LBW 551 (on the following page)

Dismissal

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



- 1 Joy ful, joy ful we a dore thee, God of glo ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv ing and for giv ing, ev er bless-ing, ev er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove. stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise. well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way. Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea, Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the of day. light chant-ing bird, and flow-ing foun-tain call ioice in thee. us to re teach us how to love each oth - er, lift di - vine! us to the joy

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1933

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

10:00 am: Baptism of Hailey Klee

11:00 am: Church Council Annual Meeting and Elections

11:30 am: Confirmation Class at St. Paul's

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)

Wednesday: 10:00 am: Comforters

12:00 pm: Staff Meeting

6:30-8:00 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

Thursday: 9:00 am-12:00 pm: Way To Go Tours

6:00 pm: Emotional Sobriety II

7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal

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 6:00-9:00 pm: Youth Group 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

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Marilyn Emerson

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Henry Vanthoff (Cheryl Shepker's grandson); Martin Burch (Lois O'Brian's brother); Pastor Tim Madsen; Alisha Barnes; 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

Nursery/Nursing Mom's Room: Located downstairs by the Sunday School room. There is a wall TV for streaming the Sunday worship service. Babies 0-24 months are welcome in the nursery and must be monitored by their parent.

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 5/16, 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.

Adult Forum—Sundays 8:50-9:30 am: Beginning May 5, Lois O'Brian will lead a discussion group on writings from the book Black Writers of the Founding Era. If you are interested in participating, please email Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com to register and secure a book.

Amherst Lutheran Campus Book Club: The ALC Book Club meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:15pm. This month's book is **Demon Copperhead** by Barbara Kingsolver. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Karin Johnson at 716-689-6365.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, May 18, 8:30-9:30 am. The group continues to read and discuss Riding the Dragon by Robert J. Wicks.



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



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)

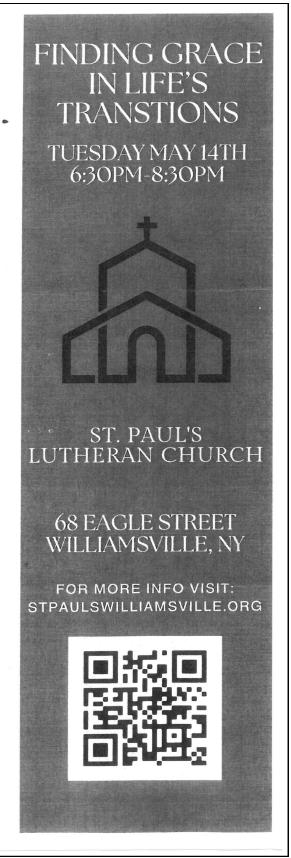
Susan Gibbons, RN, CHPN, Parish Nurse, St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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.





+ 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

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 Amherst Lutheran Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm