

First Sunday in Lent



March 9, 2025

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus



Are you new to St. Paul's?
Do you have a prayer concern?
Do you have a question for one of our
Pastoral Leaders?
Do you have a message for one of St. Paul's Staff?
Are you looking for more resources for
your spiritual life?
If your answer is yes to any of these questions, please
scan our QR code to share your needs with us.

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025*

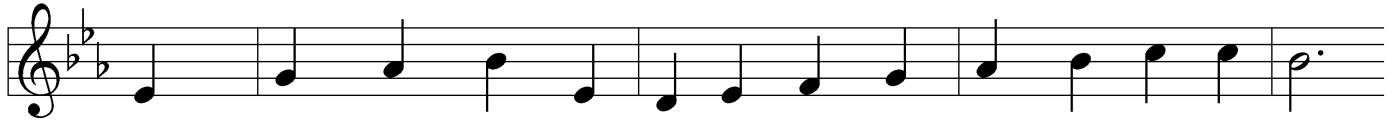
Musician: Paul Storfer

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P "Even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart." (Joel 2:12).
And so, we return to God as church together and worship in the name of the
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- C Let's roll up our sleeves and let down our guard.
- P Come in from the storm. Make yourself at home. Pull up a chair to this table
of grace!
- C Together, we are return to God with all our hearts. So, let's take a deep breath
and release the tension of trying to figure out life on our own....
- P We confess, Holy God,
- C We don't return to you fully. We share the pieces of our lives that are
convenient. We put on different hats in different rooms. We forget that we
are called, invited, and loved with all that we are — including our mess, our
beauty, our faith, and our doubt. Forgive us for not fully believing in your
grace, and give us hearts that long to return to you.
- P Friends, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. You are forgiven and
claimed with all that you are. Rest in that good news.
- C Thanks be to God, amen.

Opening Hymn: LBW 99

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



- 1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
- 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
- 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
- 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth - ly days,



in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930

Music: CAITHNESS, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1635

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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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 God of the wilderness places in our lives, it can be hard to hear you in the desert. It can be hard to hear you in the city, in the midst of our calendar reminders, rush-hour traffic, and notification alerts. It can be hard to hear you, so we ask: make everything quiet. Pause the chaos. Still the rushing. Ease our racing thoughts. Give us ears to hear your Word for us today which promises that even in the desert you are full to the brim. We are listening. We ache for your good news. Gratefully we pray.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (read responsively)

God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)

A You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

C you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."

- A Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,
C no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.
A For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.
C Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.
A You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
C I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.
A They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
C With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.
A This is the Word of the Lord
C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



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 Luke the Fourth Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

Sermon



Hymn of the Day: LBW 230

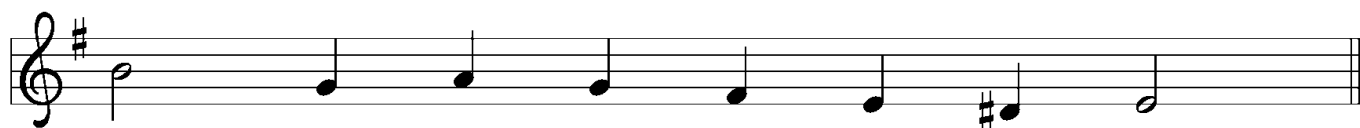
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Apostle's Creed

A Let's join to proclaim our faith using the Apostles' Creed:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayer's of the Church

A With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill, especially the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

- A Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
- C Amen.

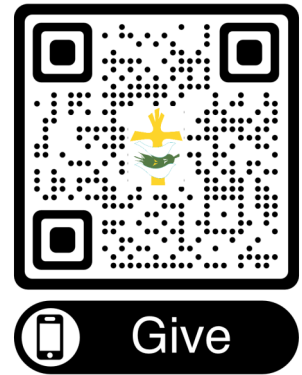
Offering Music and Prayer

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:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- **Online:** The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: <https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/>

QR Code:

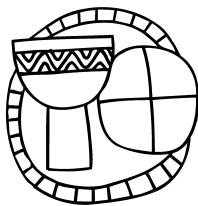


- P Let us pray. Gracious God, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. Deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others. Bless what we offer here today and in our planned giving so the world may know your hope, your presence, and your love.
- C Amen.

Great Thanksgiving & Words of Institution

- P Jesus has always been one to invite. He said, "Drop your nets and follow me." He said, "Let the little children come." He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed." Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed. So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God's table.
- C And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy.
- .

- P So come. Not because you must, but because you can. Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.
- C God who knows us, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up. We wish that we could be more like you in that way.
- P In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking. In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling. In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating. We long for these things. And you gave that to us in this meal. We celebrate that on the night that Jesus was handed over, he took bread, blessed it and broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: “This is my body, given for you; Do this in remembrance of me.”
- And again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for them 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 in remembrance of me.”
- God, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here.
- P Together we pray:
- 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

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Generous God, you have shared your very self with us through this meal and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your overflowing love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Benediction

P As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world. May you laugh, and may it be contagious. May you overflow with love for those around you. May you be focused on hope and quick to point out joy. And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: LBW 343 (on the following page)

Sending

P Go in peace, full to the brim

C Thanks be to God.

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on



pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es,



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 9-16, 2025

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

- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School followed by Lenten Kick-Off Potluck
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main (NA)
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
7:00 pm: Council Meeting (Zoom)
- Wednesday:** 10:00 a.m.: Comforters Meeting
12:00 pm: Soup & Psalms
6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
7:15 pm: Book Club at AC
- Friday:** 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging
- Saturday:** 8:30-9:30 am: Men's Breakfast
9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
5:00-8:00 pm: Youth Night at AC
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC
- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

*Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Brigitte Lowe
and the family of Kathy Greenawalt.*

Deacons: 3/9: Nancy Bartels-Holiman; 3/16: Sara Gallagher

Ushers: 3/9: Todd Vahue & Richard Riddoch; 3/16: Ben Brown & Jeff Mols

Prayer List: *In our congregational and extended family: Tim Stanley; Dawn Matuszak; Cindy Milazzo-Schwartz; Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Jim and Sue Gustafson; Sue Epstein; Rosemond Johnson*

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

Ruth Blank: Scofield Residence, 3333 Elmwood Avenue, #121, Buffalo, NY 14217

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

John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031

Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004

Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529

Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221

Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221

Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. 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 Cody at: Cody@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.

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The hours for March are: Saturdays 3/8 and 3/22 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm, and Thursdays 3/13 and 3/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for March: cereal and pasta.

Book Club at Amherst Campus: Join us on the second Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm. This month's book is "The Dictionary of Lost Words" by Pip Williams. All are welcome. For additional information please contact Karin Johnson: 716-689-6365 or karineh42@gmail.com



Beginning Wednesday, March 12 through April 9: 12:00 pm:
Join us for Soup and Psalms.

*Sign-up in the Gathering Area if you are interested in attending,
and let us know if you can bring a soup to share.*



Come join St. Paul's Youth Group for their Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22 from 4:00-7:00 pm

*Dinner includes: unlimited salad, breadsticks, pasta and meatballs with
homemade sauce, and dessert*

A Free Will Offering will benefit Youth Group events

Can you donate a dessert or a gift basket for the raffle?

If you can help us, please contact Jordan Dywan at jordandywan@gmail.com



Easter Plants Order Form

Easter is right around the corner. If you would like to purchase Easter flowers in memory/honor of a loved one, the plants are \$10 each. All checks are payable to: St. Paul's Lutheran Church!

Orders are due by April 13

Please fill out a form for each order

Check one:

☐ Please deliver my plant(s) to a shut-in member

☐ I will take my plant(s) home with me after worship

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>\$10 each</u>	<u>In memory/honor of</u>
Lily	_____	_____	_____
Daffodil	_____	_____	_____
Tulip	_____	_____	_____
Hyacinth	_____	_____	_____

Total: _____





+ 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: Robert Simpson

Vice-President: Tim Johnson

Treasurer: William Niblock

Secretary: Scott Vahue

Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein

Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

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 (AC)*

Christian Education Coordinator: *June Piette*

Youth Ministry: *Jordan Dywan*

Digital Ministry: *Andrew Gruszka*

Facilities Manager: *Jeff Stein*

Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary

E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com

Telephone: (716) 835-0407

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus
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