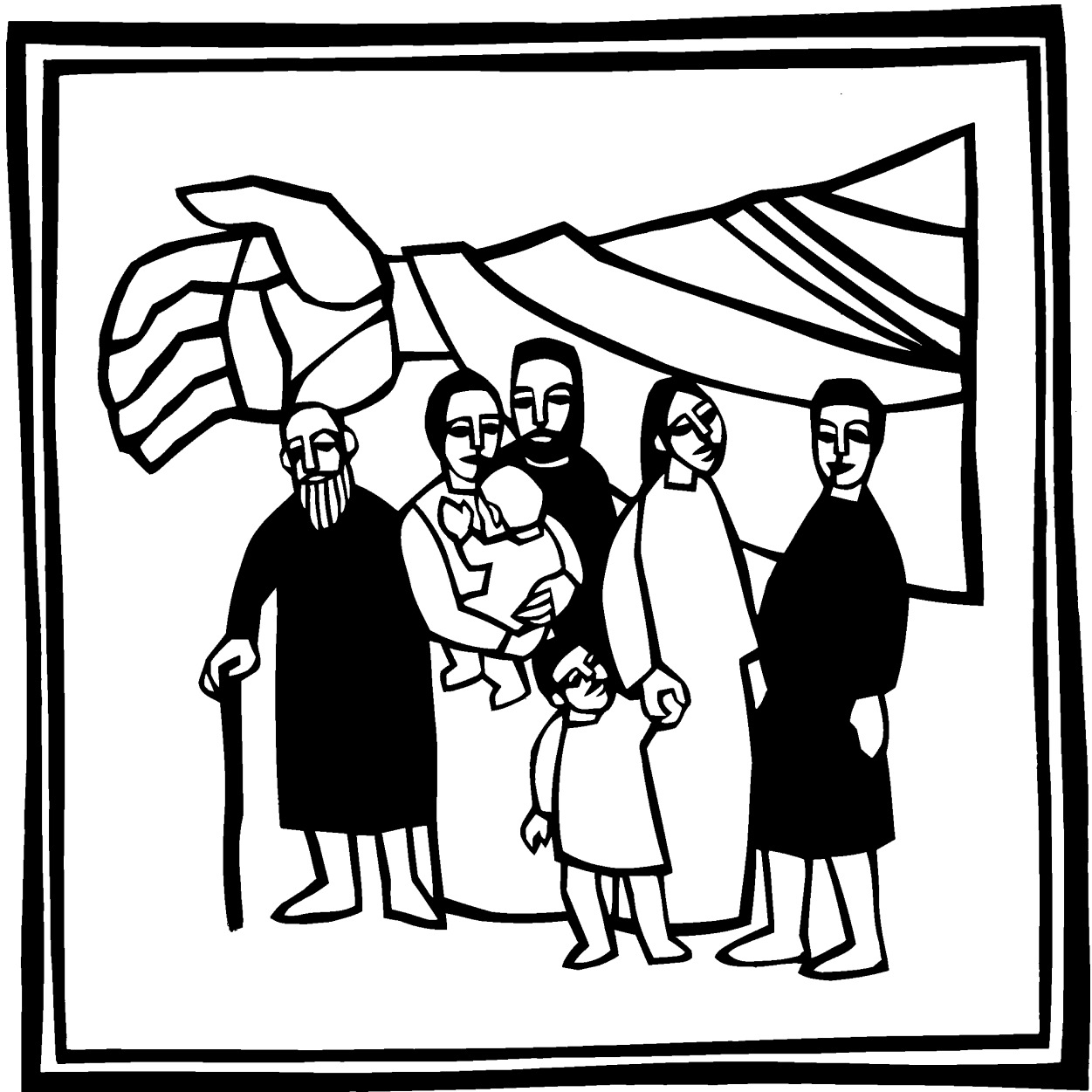


# *Second Sunday in Lent*



*March 16, 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  
Second Sunday in Lent  
March 16, 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 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.

## In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, from the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

### *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 Holy God, this life of ours is full to the brim. Our days are overflowing with emails and to-do lists, schedules and notifications, assignments and deadlines. We wake up feeling behind, we go to sleep worrying about tomorrow, and we know—there *has* to be more than this. So we pray: bend down and show us the way. Leave breadcrumbs in the street. Point us toward awe and wonder. Guide us to intimacy and trust. Gift us with laughter that will make us cry and hope that will make us feel alive. We want a new kind of full to the brim. Show us the way. We are listening for your cues. Gratefully we pray,

C Amen.

## *Children's Time*

### ***First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18***

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

### ***Psalm 27 (read responsively)***

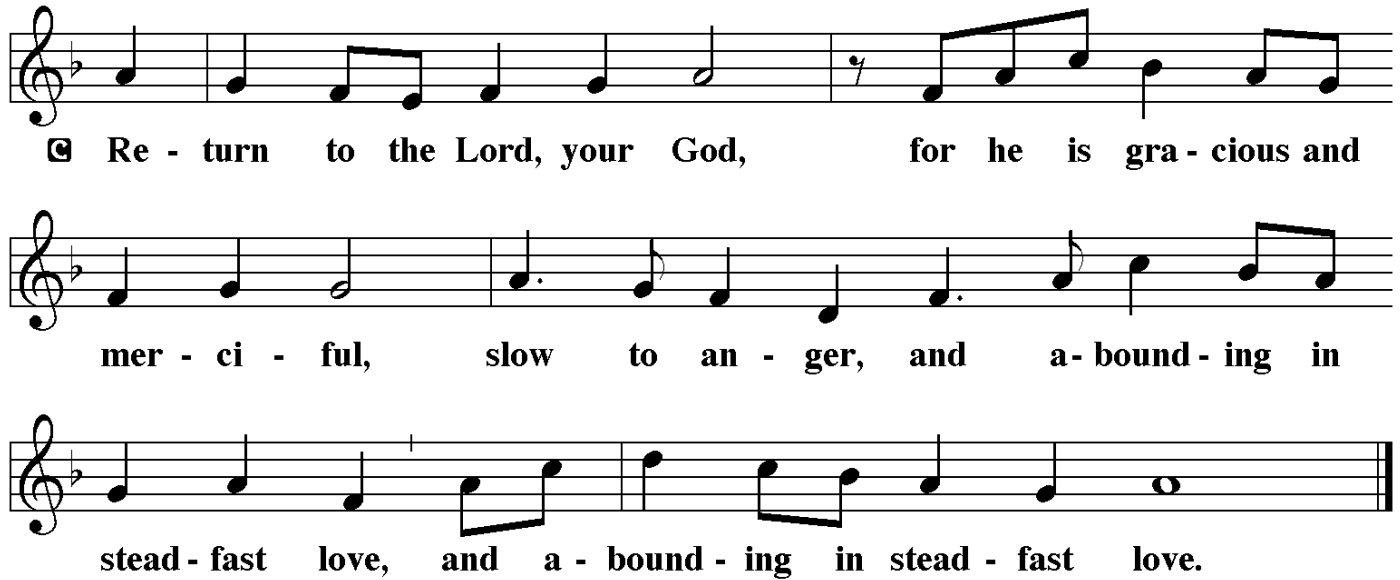
*In the day of trouble, God will give me shelter. (Ps. 27:5)*

A The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

- C** When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.
- A** Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.
- C** One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.
- A** For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- C** Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- A** Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.
- C** My heart speaks your message: “Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.
- A** Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.
- C** Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.
- A** Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.
- C** Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.
- A** This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!
- C** Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!
- A** This is the Word of the Lord
- C** Thanks be to God.



## *Gospel Acclamation*



P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 13th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

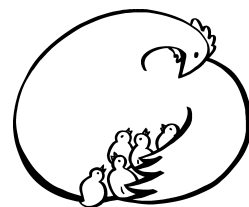
## *Gospel: Luke 13:31-35*

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.



## *Sermon*

## Thy Holy Wings



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent-ly o - ver me,  
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down-y breast  
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No-ah's cleans-ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
where I will find sweet com-fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
Oh, take in - to thy keep-ing thy chil-dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with-in thy grace.  
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
and while we sweet-ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

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## *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 Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

A Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.



- A Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to 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/>

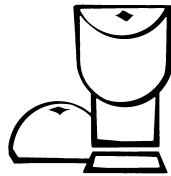
QR Code:



- P Let us pray.
- C 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. 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 to you at your seat.*

### ***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.

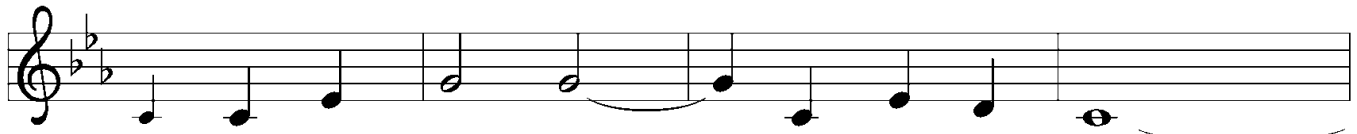
***Closing Hymn: WOV 660 (on the following page)***

### ***Sending***

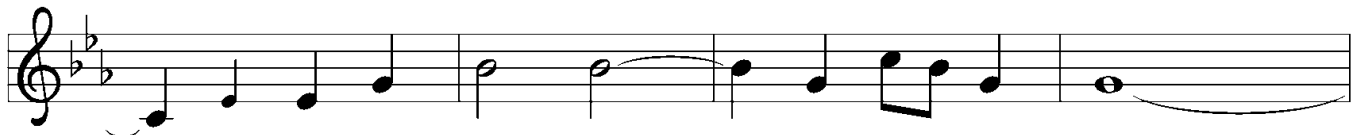
P Go in peace, full to the brim

C Thanks be to God.

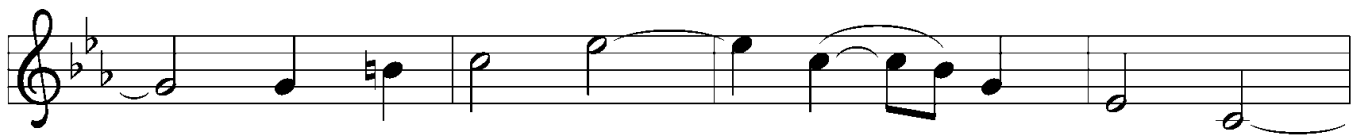
# I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



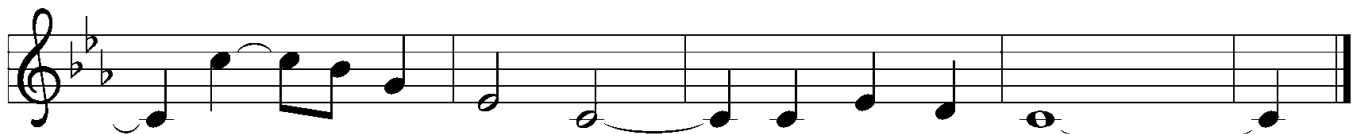
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 16-23, 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  
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)  
6:00 pm: Burrito Project  
7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
- Wednesday:** 12:00 pm: Soup & Psalms  
6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group  
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** No Events Planned
- Friday:** 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open  
9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC  
4:00-7:00 pm: Youth Group Annual Spaghetti Dinner in Parish Hall  
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, Sunday School, and Baptism of Zoey Mirabella  
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

**Deacons:** 3/16: Sara Gallagher; 3/23: Barbara Walter

**Ushers:** 3/16: Ben Brown & Jeff Mols; 3/23: Gerri Horton & Helen Gibson

**Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family:** Charles Herschlag; 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

\*Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

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](mailto: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](mailto: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: Saturday 3/22 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm, and Thursday 3/27 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for March: cereal and pasta.

***Soup and Psalms:*** Join us for Soup and Psalms every Wednesday at 12:00 pm through April 9.



*Do you have a second grader who would be interested in making their First Communion? Class will be held Sunday, March 30 after the 10:00 am worship service: 11:00 am-12:30 pm.*

*First Communion will take place during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday, April 6. To sign up, please email: [Kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:Kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com)*



***St. Paul's Youth Group Annual Spaghetti Dinner: Saturday, March 22***  
*from 4:00-7:00 pm in Eggertsville Campus Parish Hall. 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

| Plant        | Quantity | \$10 each | In memory/honor of |
|--------------|----------|-----------|--------------------|
| 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](mailto:steve@stpaulseggertsville.com)*

*Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: [kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto: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](mailto:office@stpaulseggertsville.com)*

*Telephone: (716) 835-0407*

*Website: [www.stpaulseggertsville.com](http://www.stpaulseggertsville.com)*

*St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus  
4007 Main Street  
Eggertsville, NY 14226*

*St. Paul's Amherst Campus  
5125 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221*