# Third Saturday of Easter



May 3, 2025 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst 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.

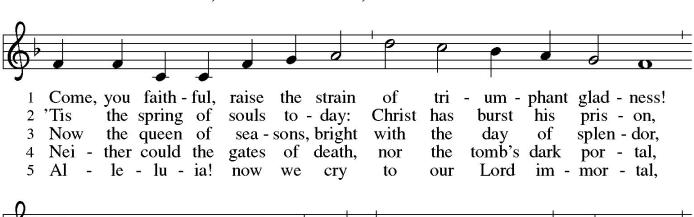
Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Campus Third Saturday of Easter May 3, 2025

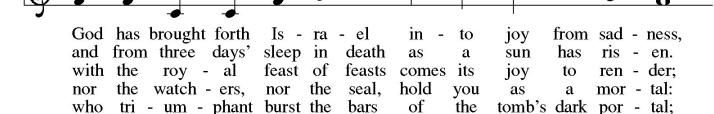
Musician: Adam Schmidt

#### Confession

- P We begin worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
- C Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. By the authority of Christ, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain







loosed from Pha-raoh's bit - ter voke Ja - cob's sons and daugh-ters: win - ter and dark, All the of our sins, long is fly - ing glad Jer - u - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion comes to - day, be - stow - ing but a - mong your own, you ap - pear, le - lu - ia! with the Son God the Fa - ther prais - ing;



them with Red Sea wa - ters. led un - moist - ened foot through the from the Light to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing. res - ur - rec - tion! wel-comes in un - wea - ried strain Je sus' your deep peace, which ev - er - more hu - man know - ing. pass es Al - le - lu - ia! yet Spir - it rais - ing. a - gain to the

#### Apostolic Greeting

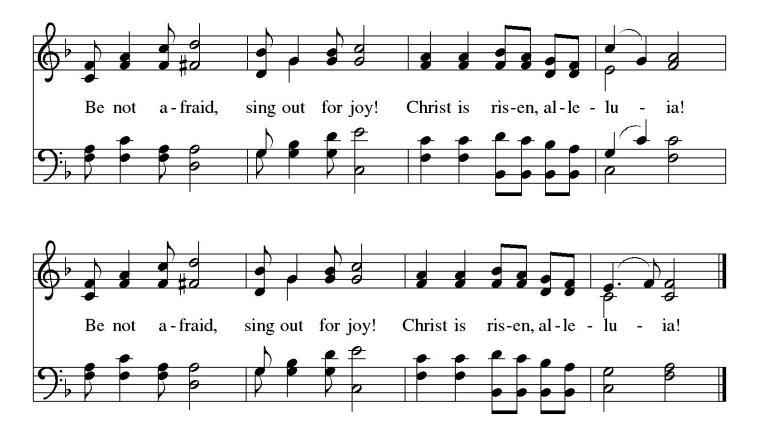
- P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

#### Prayer of the Day

- P Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen

Praise Hymn: ELW 388

#### Be Not Afraid



Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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#### First Reading: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

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

#### Psalm 30 (read responsively)

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

- A I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- C O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.
- A You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- C Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.
- A God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- C While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.
- A You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.
- C I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,
- A What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?
- C Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper."
- A You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
- C Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel Hymn: TFF 95: 1-Leader; 2-Congregation

#### He Is Lord



He is Lord, he is Lord, he is ris-en from the dead and he is Lord;



ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con-fess that Je - sus Christ is Lord.

Text: Philippians 2:10–11, adapt. Music: HE IS LORD, traditional

- P The Holy Gospel according to John the 21st Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Gospel: John 21:1-19

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you,

when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

#### Sermon

Sermon Hymn: TFF 94

### Low in the Grave He Lay *Up from the Grave He Arose*



He a-rose! Hal-le-lu-jah! Christ a - rose!

saints to reign. He a - rose!

#### 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 God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. (Please be seated.)
  - Your love sustains the church and its ministries. By that love, equip youth directors, Sunday school teachers, and all who guide formation in the church to nurture vibrant, living faith among your people. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve oceans and rivers, lakes and estuaries so that all creatures living in them might flourish. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Your wisdom guides all who strive for justice and peace. Strengthen the work of grassroots organizers, especially among communities on the frontlines of justice work. Amplify the voices of those most in need, that their leadership guides the way forward. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P Your compassion surrounds all who are in need. We pray for all people experiencing poverty and food insecurity, and for all struggling with debt and economic uncertainty. Reassure all who experience hopelessness or need your tender care. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Hear us, O God.

- C Your mercy is great.
- P You invite all people to your table of grace. Make this a community of radical hospitality where all feel loved and celebrated. Show us how to better welcome visitors and bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.
- P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C Amen.

#### Offering Hymn: WOV Page 35



#### 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/



#### 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.

#### 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

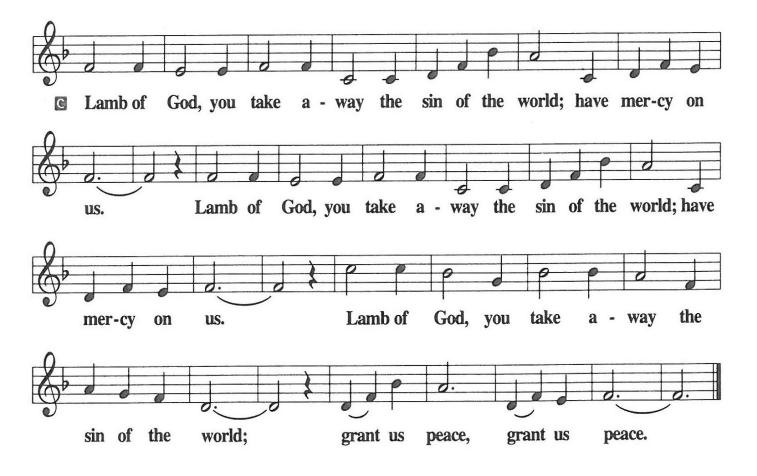
P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

#### Communion Hymn: WOV Page 39

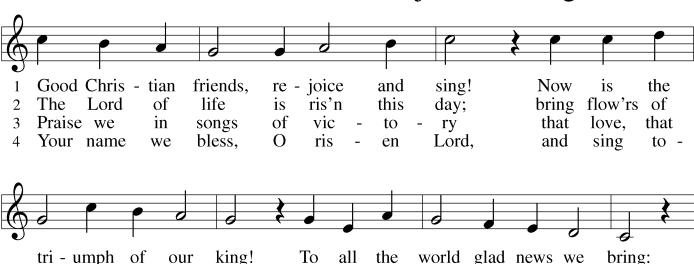


#### Holy Communion at St. Paul's: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all.

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: LBW 144

#### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



bring: king! world glad news we song to strew his way; the world re - joice and let all say: life which can - not die. and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high: day with life laid down, the life one ac - cord, the re stored:



Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.

Music: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

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#### 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 Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
- C Amen.

#### **Benediction**

- P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...
- C Amen

#### Closing Hymn: LBW 143 (on the following page)

#### Sending

- P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
- P Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



#### Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 4-11, 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 11:30 am-1:00 pm: Confirmation Students - Service Day

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Monday: 4:30 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

Wednesday: 8:00-10:00 am: Amherst Family Support Center Meeting

11:00 am: Staff Meeting 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group

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

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

**Thursday:** 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal

7:15 pm: Book Club Meeting at AC

Friday: 7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging Meeting Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC

9:00 am-12:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC 6:00-10:00 pm: Private Function in Parish Hall

**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

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Julia Jarvis (Andrea Jarvis' daughter); Michelle Uro-Ramos (Dave Hornung's daughter); Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Sue Epstein

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

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 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

Charles Scofield: Beechwood, 2235 Millersport Highway, #706, Getzville, NY 14068

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY

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 pantry hours for May are: Thursdays 5/15, and 5/29 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 5/10 and 5/24 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. May donations: cereal, crackers, and cooking oil.

**Book Club Meeting:** Come join us at the Amherst Campus on Thursday, May 8 beginning at 7:15 pm as we discuss the May book: **Orange is the New Black** by Piper Kerman.

### The Lutheran Chorale Of the Niagara Frontier

Erin Alexander, Director Presents

Johann Michael HAYDN's

### "Requiem Solemne"

Also featuring selections by Rutter, Bairstow, Dawson and Mendelssohn

> Friday, May 9, 2025 7:00 p.m. First Trinity Lutheran Church 1570 Niagara Falls Blvd. Tonawanda, New York

> > Tickets: \$15 Adults

Call 716-741-4573 for more information or visit our website: www.thelutheranchoraleoftheniagarafrontier.com



## + 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: Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

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

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette
<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan
<u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka
<u>Facilities Manager</u>: 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 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226 St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

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