## Reformation Sunday



October 26, 2025 10:00 am St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Eggertsville Campus Reformation Sunday October 26, 2025

Musician: Paul Storfer





## Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be God, the Holy Trinity + the giver of all good, the source of all joy. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- God of all, You have given us all that we need and you ask that we share your abundance. We confess that we have not responded to your call to be open channels of your grace. We clench our fists when you ask for open hands; we close our minds when you ask for grace toward our neighbors. Open our hearts to live in the abundance of your creation; loosen our grip and restore our souls, that we may freely give and receive. Amen.
- P Beloved in Christ, God makes all things new. In the name of Christ, + you are forgiven. Your hearts are unlocked; your grasping is unbound. You are free to live as flowing streams of God's abundant grace.
- C Amen.

#### Opening Hymn: LBW 229

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



- for tress is Α might - y our God, a sword and shield vic -
- No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
- Though hordes of fill land all threat - 'ning to dev - ils the de -
- shall a - bide, God's Word for - ev - er thanks no to foes. who



to rious; ject ed. vour us, fear it:

he breaks the cruel op pres - sor's rod and But now cham-pion comes fight, whom a to we trem - ble not, un moved we stand; they for God him - self fights by side with our



wins sal - va - tion glo rious. God him - self e lect ed. can - not o - ver pow'r us. the Spir it. weap-ons of

The old sa - tan - ic You ask who this may be? Let this world's ty - rant rage; Were they to take our house,



has work us woe! sworn to The he! Lord of hosts is bat - tle we'll en - gage! child, or spouse, goods, hon - or,

With craft and dread - ful might Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, His might is doomed to fail; though life wrenched a - way, be



arms him - self to fight. he God's on - ly Son, a - dored. God's judg-ment must pre-vail! they can - not win the day.

On earth he has qual. no He holds the field vic - to rious. One lit - tle word sub - dues him. The king-dom's ours for - ev er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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

## 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 all, you created us for humility and grace. Where there is contempt, may we share your mercy. Where there is brokenness, may we turn again toward healing. Hold us in your love, through Jesus Christ, your Son.
- C Amen

#### Children's Time

## First Reading: Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

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

#### Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift,

through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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



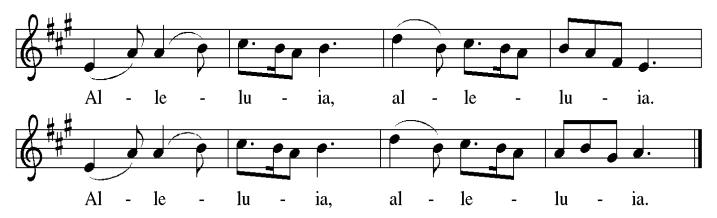
Confirmand Readings

Marlee Ann Magin - Isaiah 41:10: "do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my victorious right hand."

Leah Paige Skinner - Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight."

## 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 John the 8th Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Gospel: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

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

#### Sermon

## Hymn of the Day: LBW 393

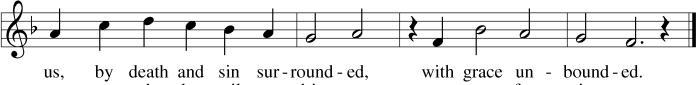
## Rise, Shine, You People!



- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e vil reel ing;
- 3 Come, cel e brate; your ban - ners high un furl ing, Tell Fa - ther how the sent his Son to save us.



hu - man sto - ry; God in is cen - tered. He him comes to our free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. brings us he All men and To your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing. all the the Son, who life and free-dom gave Tell the Tell us. how



wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, world go out and tell the sto - ry Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion

with grace un - bound-ed. now are for - giv - en. of Je - sus' glo - ry. his new cre - a - tion.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.

Music: WOJTKIEWIECZ, Dale Wood, b. 1934

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#### **CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation marks a milestone in the faith journey of Marlee and Leah. They have undergone a special period of instruction in the Christian faith as confessed in the teachings of the Lutheran Church, learning from their parents, pastor, and other members of the congregation how that faith is an integral part of their lives. Those presented here for Confirmation were made members of the Church in Baptism. Now they undertake to make personal, public profession of that faith in which they were baptized, thus underscoring God's gracious action in their Baptism.

## Affirmation of Baptism



#### Presentation

P Dear friends, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

#### Renunciation of Evil

Residing pastor addresses those who have been presented.

P Sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

- R I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
- R I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
- R I renounce them.

#### Profession of Faith

- P Do you believe in God the Father?
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- 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.
- P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

## Prayers of the Church

A Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace,

## C receive our prayer.

A Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace,

#### C receive our prayer.

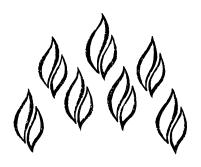
A Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace,

## C receive our prayer.

A Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill, especially

The people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace,

- C receive our prayer.
- A Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints. Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace,
- C receive our prayer.
- A We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.



(Confirmands, parents, and any baptismal sponsors approach the altar area together)

#### Commitment

- P Marlee/Leah: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?
- R I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

## Prayer of Blessing

P Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these women your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C Amen

## Laying On of Hands

- P Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Marlee/Leah the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her faith, guide her life, empower her in her serving, give her patience in suffering, and bring her to everlasting life.
- C Amen

The Congregation welcomes Marlee and Leah as the Newest Missionaries of St. Paul's



## 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:

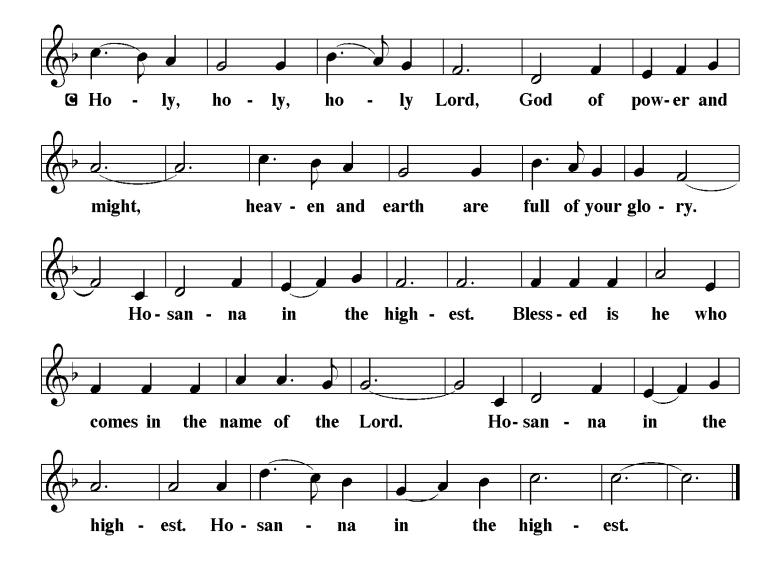
## Offering Music and Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C God of life, you have blessed us with every good gift. Through our offerings today and in our planned giving, open us to share all that we have been given and to love the world in Jesus' name. 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 sing their unending hymn:



#### 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.

## 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 Abundant God, You have nourished us with life, love, and grace. Fill us to the brim with your care, that we may go into the world with open arms and open hearts to share your peace with the 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 369 (on the following page)

#### Dismissal

- P Go in peace to serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### The Church's One Foundation



- 1 The church's one foun-da tion is Je sus Christ, her Lord;
- 2 E lect from ev-'ry na tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
- 3 Though with a scorn-ful won der this world sees her op-pressed,
- 4 Through toil and trib u la tion and tu mult of her war,
- 5 Yet she on earth has u nion with God, the Three in One,



she his new a - tion by cre char-ter of va - tion one her sal by schisms. rent a \_ sund - er, by waits the con-sum - ma - tion of she mys-tic sweet com - mu - nion with and

wa - ter and the word. Lord, one faith, one birth: her - e - sies dis - tressed, peace for - ev - er - more; those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he sought her his ho - ly bride: came and to be bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly ho - ly name she food, one keep - ing; their long?" saints their watch are cry goes up: "How yet till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest, cho - rus! Lord, save us by Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly your grace,



died. with his own blood he bought her, and for her life hope she press - es with ev - 'rv en - dued. and to one grace night of weep - ing shall soon the be the morn and of song. the great church vic - to - rious shall and be the church at rest. we, like saints be - fore you that us, may face. see

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: October 26-November 2, 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, Sunday School, and Confirmation

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

12:00 pm: 200th Anniversary Meeting

5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)

7:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale

Wednesday: 6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group at AC

8:00 pm: AA Meeting

**Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open

Friday: No Events Planned

**Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC

2:00 pm: Columbarium Relocation to Parkside Lutheran

5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC followed by Family Fun Night

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

10:00 am: Baptisms of Gracie and Ellie Spoth

1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Deacons: 10/26: Sara Gallagher; 11/2:

Ushers: 10/26: Richard Riddock & Todd Vahue; 11/2: Marissa Vahue & Scott Vahue

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Eileen Knauth; Tammy Thomas; David Wieczorek; Joyce Chace; Elaine Masman; Lavon Amos; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; David Schunak; Kate Kopasz and Lynda LoTempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; 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

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: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #228, Williamsville, NY 14221

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY 14226

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

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2025 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 remaining pantry hours for October are: Thursday 10/30 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturday10/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for October: spaghetti sauce and crushed or canned tomatoes.

The Burrito Project could use your help. They are asking for donations of new winters hats, scarves, and socks. Donations can be dropped off in the collection bin in the church vestibule.

#### Time for the 2026 Adult Retreat at LCLC

Our adult retreat weekend at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center is on the calendar for January 23rd-25th 2026. Come join us for a faith filled, fun, relaxing weekend as we discover how God "fills us to overflowing" and keeps us warm with His love! The days are complete with with laughs, smiles, fellowship and lots of fun. Mark your calendars and reserve your spot now on the sign up sheet in the back narthex. The weekend fills up quickly! All are welcome.... hope you will think about joining us...bring a friend or two.... the more the merrier! Any questions...chat with Barb Walter (716-574-8527). Hope to see you there!





We invite you to pray and to journey with us as we discover the generosity of God and how we respond.

What is possible for us to do in response to God's lavish generosity? God's gifts come to particular people, in particular places, in particular times.

Because we are made in God's image, we, too, uniquely embody God's steadfast abundance, love, and mercy.

We are equipped to be generous where we are.

Drawn more deeply into the body of Christ, we are reminded of our belovedness, and we can respond with generosity, love, and service on behalf of our neighbors.



# + 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

<u>Directors of Music</u>: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette; Email: scs@stpaulseggertsville.com

<u>Youth Ministry</u>: Jordan Dywan; Email: youth@stpaulseggertsville.com

<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