

*Third Sunday
in Lent*



the good news is..

together, the impossible
is possible

March 8, 2026

10:00 am

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus



Welcome to St. Paul's!

We're glad you're here!
Scan the QR Code Below to check in



Do you have:
Prayer requests?
A need to speak to a Pastor?
Questions about joining St. Paul's?

**For this and more,
Scan the QR code above to share
your needs with us!**

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Egbertsville Campus
Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026*

Musician: Paul Storfer

Confession and Forgiveness (Please stand if you are able.)

P We worship in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P If God threw a party, all would be invited.

C If God hosted a dinner, there'd be a seat saved for each of us.

P If God prepared a banquet,

C a cheer would go up when you arrived.

P This is the good news: God is throwing a party. God is hosting a dinner. God is preparing a banquet, and all are invited.

C Let us worship this invitational God.

P Family of faith, if someone declines our invitations again and again, in our human ways, we tend to stop inviting them. We get the hint. We assume they'd rather be elsewhere. But with God, things are different. No matter how many times we overlook or ignore God's outstretched hand, God will never stop reaching for us. So, with that good news in mind, let us go to God in prayer. Gracious God,

C you invite all of us to your table: the faithful and the doubting, the restless and the hopeless, the addicted and the lonely, the lost and the confused. You invite all of us, regardless of who we are or where we've been, but we often fail to do the same. When given the opportunity, we are guilty of casting judgment on our neighbors. We draw lines, assume the worst, create cliques, and accept exclusion. Forgive our harmful ways. This Lent, show us how to love others the way you love us. With hope we pray, amen.

P Friends, no matter how many times we mess up, no matter how many times we lose our way, no matter how many times we decline God's invitation, God will never stop inviting us to the table. There is and always will be a seat saved for you. There is and always will be love and grace for you. You are forgiven and set free to forgive and love others in the exact same way, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

C Thanks be to God, amen.

Opening Hymn: LBW 212

Let Us Break Bread Together



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing



sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.



3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

Refrain



let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

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, we could press our ear to the page, hoping to hear you more clearly. We could silence all the alarms and notifications, hoping to catch a murmur of your voice. We could still our beating hearts, and still we might miss your voice. So today we pray, open up space in our hearts, in our spirits, in our minds, to feel your presence among us. With you, anything is possible. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

C Amen.

Children's Time

First Reading: Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-13 (read responsively)

A I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

C Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

A Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

C One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.

A They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate.

C They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

A They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

C **The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

A All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

C **They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

A Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



♩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



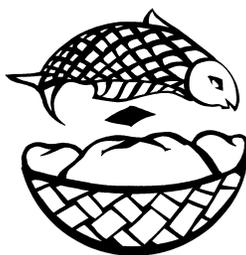
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 6th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 6:32-44

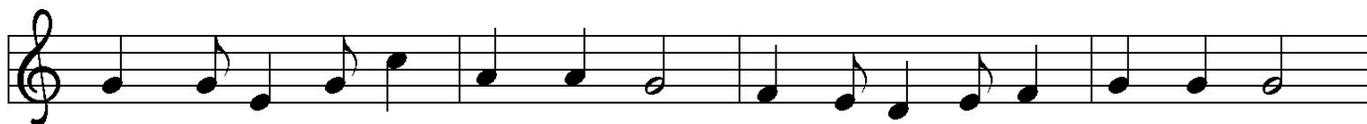
And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

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



Sermon

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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Apostle's Creed

P Together we say what we believe using the words of the Apostle's 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

Prayers of the Church

- A Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)
- O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- A When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought, and bring relief to places damaged by floods. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- A When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Bring peace to wars between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans, reminding us that we are all your children. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- A When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need, especially 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.**
- A When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and musical ensembles. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- A O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- A Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
- C Amen.**

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 Giving Code:



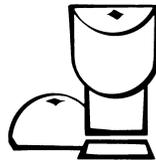
Last Week's Service Offerings: \$ 10,727.00

Budgeted Weekly Service Offering: \$7,488.00

Offering Music and Prayer

P Let us pray,

C God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these gifts we offer today and in our planned giving for the needs of the world, through Christ our Savior. Amen.



Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And Also with you.

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. 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 you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Loving Christ, thank you for the bread that nourishes our bodies. Thank you for the cup that quenches our thirst. Thank you for this community, which reminds us who we are. Thank you for this Table that brings us together. Thank you for the music that lifts our spirits. Thank you for the promise that at this Table, and every table, you will be there. May this holy meal nourish us to go out into the world speaking of your good, good news.
With joy and hope we pray.

C Amen.

Benediction

P As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love. When you meet fear, speak with hope. When you meet pain, speak with gentleness. But no matter what, speak this good news. For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all. It is joy that surprises, and grace that transforms. The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking. For if we won't, then who will? Thanks be to God for this good, good news. And all God's children' said:

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: LBW 200 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

For the Bread Which You Have Broken



- 1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
- 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631

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Holy Week Services

Saturday, March 28: Palm Weekend Service at 5:00 pm at AC

Sunday, March 29: Palm Weekend Service at 10:00 am

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday Potluck at 6:00 pm

Friday, April 3: Good Friday Services at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 4: Easter Vigil Service at 5:00 pm at AC

Sunday, April 5: Easter Services at 7:00 am and 10:00 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: March 8-15, 2026

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

- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:00 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
11:00 am-12:00 pm: First Communion Class
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
5:30-9:00 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
7:00-8:30 pm: Waiting In Hope
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study
5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)
7:00 pm: Church Council Meeting
7:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale
- Wednesday:** 10:00 am: Comforters Meeting
12:00 pm: Soup and Psalms
6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group at AC
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 7:15 pm: Book Club at AC
- Friday:** No Events Planned
- 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, Communion, and First Communion at AC
- Sunday:** 9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
9:30 am-1:00 pm: Western New York Church at AC
10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship, Communion, First Communion, Sunday School, and Baptism of Henry Spitzer
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Altar Flowers: Are given in love, honor, and memory of our dear friend, Paul Converso, by Barb and Lonny

Deacons: 3/8: Barbara Walter; 3/15: John Schunak

Ushers: 3/8: Michael & Michele Degen; 3/15: Michael & Michele Degen

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Sondra Howe; Claudia Mols; Maurice Saxton; Norma Hornung; Christine Vranich; Barbara Fisher; Cheryl Shepker; Maria Neudecker; David Wiczorek; Lavon Amos; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; Sylvia McLaughlin; Sue Epstein

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

Joyce Chace: Brookdale, 6076 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

Jack Gallagher: Amberleigh, 2330 Maple Road, #183, Williamsville, NY 14221

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
Sylvia McLaughlin: 44 Sherwin Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150
Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221
Charles Scofield: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #228, 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*

Daily Bread Food Truck: *The 2026 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 March are: Thursdays 3/5 and 3/19 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 3/14 and 3/28 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for March: cereal, fruit juice, and diced tomatoes.*

Soup and Psalms: *Every Wednesday during Lent (ending 3/25/26) beginning at 12:00 pm, you are invited to participate in sharing soup and psalms with other St. Paul's missionaries.*

First Communion: *If you have a student who would be interested in making their First Communion, class will be held on Sunday, March 8 from 11:00 am-12:00 pm. Students will make their First Communion during worship on Saturday, March 14 or Sunday, March 15. Email Pastor Kristen at kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com if you are interested in participating.*



Welcome to our Book Nook: *Located on the fireplace mantle in the Gathering Area. Feel free to take or donate a book. Use the book racks to help keep the books in order.*



SPAGHETTI DINNER

& Basket Raffle Fundraiser

**Saturday, March 21st
4:00-7:00pm**

Your free will donation supports our youth group with LCLC camperships and travel to the 2027 Youth Gathering!



Good food. Good fun. Great cause.

Non-alcoholic beverages will be served. BYO wine or beer.

This Lent, our congregation is joining other Lutheran Churches in a friendly competition to collect cereal and canned meats for local families in need.

From now through Good Friday, please bring your donations to church & place them on the designated table in the entryway at Eggertsville.

If you'd prefer to shop online and have items shipped directly to the church, see Amazon lists below!

\$50 Loaves and Fishes Lenten Challenge Amazon List:
<https://a.co/ogEqbDoq>

\$25 Loaves and Fishes Lenten Challenge Amazon List:
<https://a.co/odsnPKnH>



*Thank
you!*

The 5th Annual Snowball Golf Classic was a huge success, thanks to many of you!

We were able to raise over \$15,000 for our free meal shares in 2026. Our total expenses for the year are just over \$54,000, so this is a big part of keeping us rolling.

We're also so thankful for your participation in the great fellowship, community and laughter that happened at the Dome. Really fantastic!

We truly appreciate everyone who donated gift baskets, gift cards, money & time to this event. It keeps getting better year after year!





*+ 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: Janet Schmidt
Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein
Sara Hannon Vanessa Solomon Scott Vahue 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; Email: scs@stpaulseggertsville.com*
Youth Ministry: *Jordan Dywan; Email: youth@stpaulseggertsville.com*
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
4007 Main Street
Eggertsville, NY 14226*

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

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

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm