

*Fifth Saturday  
of Easter*



*May 2, 2026*

*5:00 pm*

*St. Paul's Amherst 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  
Amherst Campus  
Fifth Saturday of Easter  
May 2, 2026*

*Musician: Adam Schmidt*

### *Confession*

**P** We begin worship today in this Easter season 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** **Lord, we confess that we are broken and imperfect. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions, by the things we've done and the things we haven't done. We get distracted and forget to love you with our whole heart; we also haven't 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 fully live into the amazing promise that we are unconditionally loved by You.**

**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. So, it is my honor and pleasure as one of your pastors to remind you of the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## I've Got Peace like a River



1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,  
2 I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain,  
3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,



I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul;  
I've got joy like a foun - tain in my soul;  
I've got love like an o - cean in my soul;



I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er,  
I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain,  
I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean,



I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul.  
I've got joy like a foun - tain in my soul.  
I've got love like an o - cean in my soul.

### *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** Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Praise Hymn: W&P 55*

# He is exalted

F F/A B $\flat$  B $\flat$ /D C/E

He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high; I will praise him.

F F/A B $\flat$  C/B $\flat$  B $\flat$ /C C

He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise his

Dsus D/C Gm Dm/F C/E C F Am

name. Je - sus is Lord, for - ev - er his truth shall

B $\flat$  F/A Gm Dm/F C/E C F Am

reign; hea - ven and earth re - joice in his ho - ly

B $\flat$  F/A Gm B $\flat$ /F E $\flat$ M<sup>7</sup> B $\flat$ /C F B $\flat$ /F F

name. He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high.

***First Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10***

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

***Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (read responsively)***

*Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

A In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

C **Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.**

A Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

C **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.**

A Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

C **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

A Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

A This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Hymn: TFF 26*

## Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is written in the upper staff, and the bass line is in the lower staff. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves, similar to the first system. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is written in the upper staff, and the bass line is in the lower staff. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th Chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

### *Gospel: John 14:1-14*

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the

Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sermon*

*Sermon Hymn: LBW 357*

Our Father, by Whose Name



1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name all par - ent - hood is known,  
 2 O Christ, your - self a child with - in an earth - ly home,  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, bind our hearts in u - ni - ty



in love di - vine you claim each fam - 'ly as your own.  
 with heart still un - de - filed to full a - dult - hood come:  
 and teach us how to find the love from self set free;



Bless moth - ers, fa - thers, guard - ing well, with con - stant love as  
 our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place that they may all be -  
 in all our hearts such love in - crease that ev - 'ry home, by



sen - ti - nel, the homes in which your peo - ple dwell.  
 hold your face and, know - ing you, may grow in grace.  
 this re - lease, may be the dwell - ing place of peace.

## *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*

**P** Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. (Please be seated.)

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

**P** God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick, especially the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God,

**C** receive our prayer.

- P God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- P God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.
- C Amen.

*Offering Hymn: WOV 612*

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

### *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/>

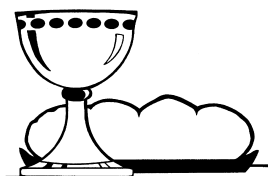
QR Giving Code:



Last Week's Digital and Service Offerings: \$6,990.98  
Budgeted Weekly Service Offering: \$7,488.00

P Let us pray,

C Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered here today and through our online giving. You have set a table before us, nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, 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, 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:

**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 Hymn: WOV Page 39*

☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Distribution Hymn: LBW 534 (Now Thank We All Our God; on the following page)*

*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 Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

C Amen.

# Now Thank We All Our God



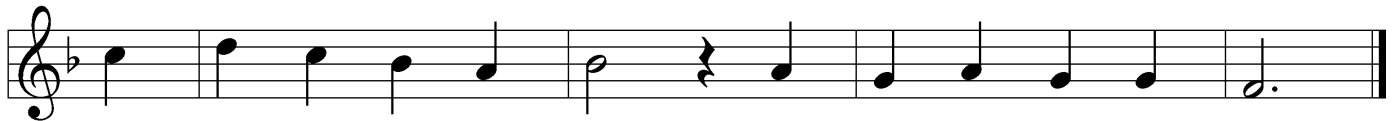
1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,  
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

## *Benediction*

P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord 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: ELW 389 (on the following page)*

## *Sharing the Peace and Sending*

P Go in peace. Christ is Risen.

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: May 3-10, 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: Following the 10:00 am Worship Service: Inside/Outside Church Cleaning
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share  
7:00-8:30 pm: Waiting in Hope Meeting
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study  
5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)
- Wednesday:** 8:00-10:00 am: Amherst Family Support Center Meeting  
1:00 pm: Pinochle Group  
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** No Events Planned
- 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 and 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, and Sunday School

*Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Betty & James Aprile; Martin Burch (Lois O'Brian's brother); Sondra Howe; Claudia Staines; Maurice Saxton; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; 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  
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  
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](mailto: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](mailto:dailybread4007@gmail.com).

## ***NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS***

***Adult Forum Schedule:*** 5/3: Topic to be determined; 5/10-5/24: Craig Maefs—An Overview of Current Events in the Middle East

***Thursday, May 14 at 7:15 pm at AC: Book Club;*** book for May reading: *Rent Collector* by Carmon Wright

***Tigers Den Food Pantry:*** The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, or by referral. The pantry hours for May are different than normal in order to meet FeedMore WNY requirements: Saturday, May 9 and May 16 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm; and Thursday, May 14 and May 28 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for May: paper towels and tissues.

***Grief Share:*** Are you grieving a loss? Beginning Wednesday, May 6-July 29, 2026 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm, at Abiding Savior Church, 1134 Ruie Road, North Tonawanda, NY, 14120. For additional information contact Karen Himle, 716-694-2514



# LET'S CLEAN UP

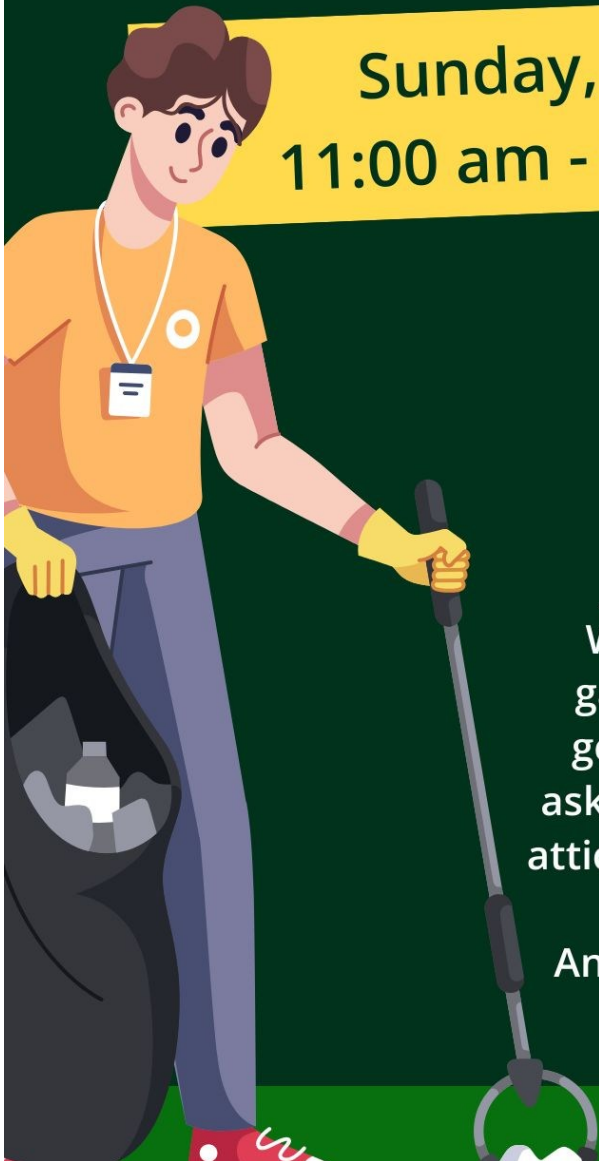


## ST. PAUL'S!

Let's Create a Cleaner  
Eggersville Campus Together

Daily Bread  
Food Truck  
will be on site  
serving a  
delicious meal to  
all volunteers!

Sunday, May 3  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm



Join us for our St. Paul's Spring Cleaning!  
We will be picking up sticks, preparing the  
garden beds for planting, and working on a  
general outdoor beautification! We are also  
asking people to help indoors by assisting with  
attic clean out and dusting and cleaning pews in  
the Sanctuary.

Any amount of time you can come help out is  
much appreciated!



**You are cordially invited to join us for a special last  
Worship Service at  
St. Paul's Amherst Campus**

**Saturday, May 23, 2026  
5 pm**

**We will gather in gratitude, reflection, and hope. .  
This sacred service will be a time to give thanks for  
all that has been, to honor the memories we hold  
dear, and to entrust the future to God's care.**

**Cake & Light Refreshments served after the service**



*+ 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*

**Pastors**

*Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: [steve@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:steve@stpaulseggertsville.com)  
Kristen Arends: Email: [kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com)*

**Directors of Music:** *Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)*  
**Christian Education Coordinator:** *June Piette: [scs@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:scs@stpaulseggertsville.com)*  
**Youth Ministry:** *Jordan Dywan: [youth@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:youth@stpaulseggertsville.com)*  
**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*

*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*