Sunday, March 3, 2024 Third Sunday of Lent Holy Communion

* stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (Sunday only) Processional From The Crucifixion John Stainer arr. Arthur Wildman

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P- Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. C- Amen.

P- Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P- Holy God,

C- we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.

We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

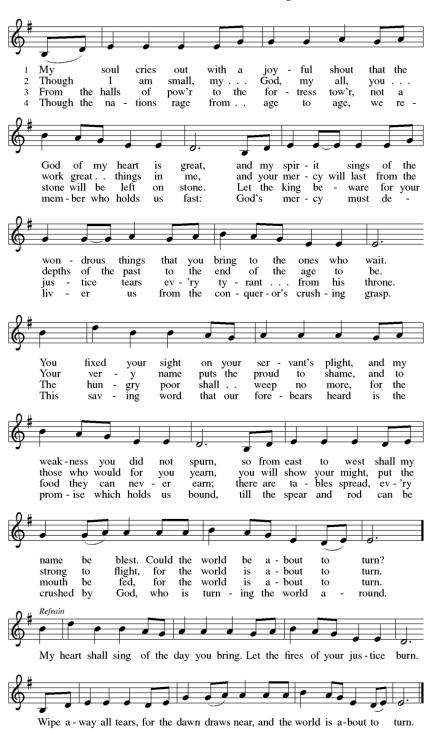
Amen.

P- Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.
C- Amen.

GATHERING HYMN (SUNDAY ONLY) Canticle of the Turning (ELW 723)

Canticle of the Turning



Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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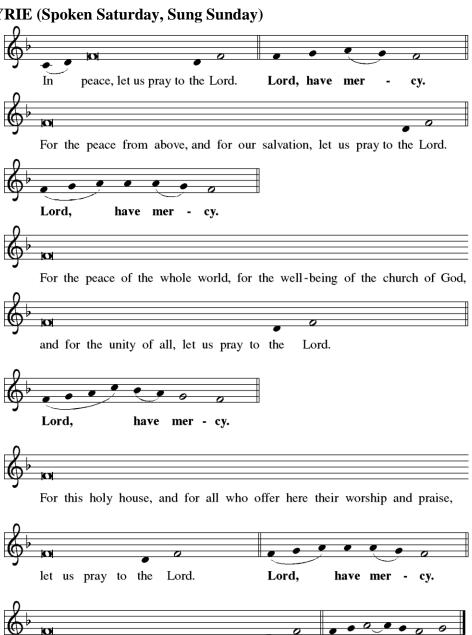
GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.





Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

P- Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P- Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C- Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

- ¹³You shall not murder.
- ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.
- ¹⁵You shall not steal.
- ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

PSALM: Psalm 19 responsive

¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another,

and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

8The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;

the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable

in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

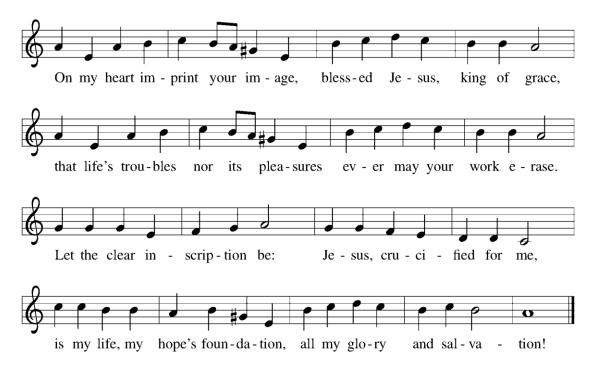
¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Spoken Saturday, Sung Sunday)

On My Heart Imprint Your Image



Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strömme, 1856–1921, alt. Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

P- The holy gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

C- Glory to you, O Lord.

P-¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume

me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The gospel concludes:

P- The gospel of the Lord.

C- Praise to you, O Christ.

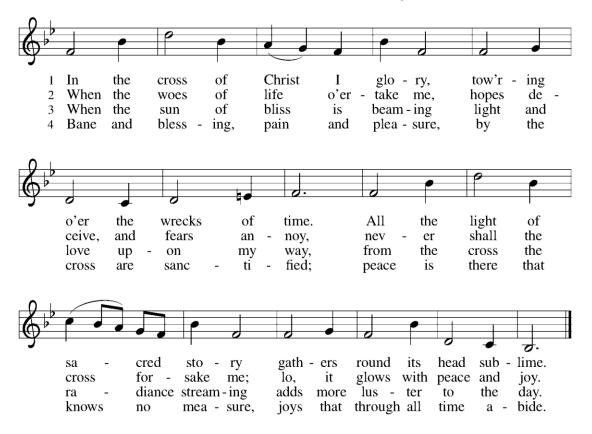
SERMON

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY In the Cross of Christ I Glory (ELW 324) (Sunday only)

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

C- APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

P- Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P- You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land (*regions in conflict may be named*). Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

P- You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family (*especially*). We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

C- Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P- You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.
- C- Your mercy is great.
- P- Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C- Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P- The peace of Christ be with you always.

C- And also with you.

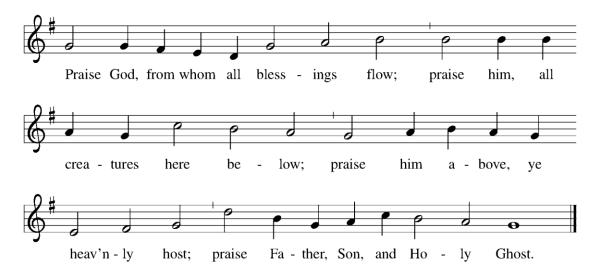
The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING (Sunday only)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OFFERING PRAYER

P- God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C- Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (spoken Saturday sung Sunday)

- 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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

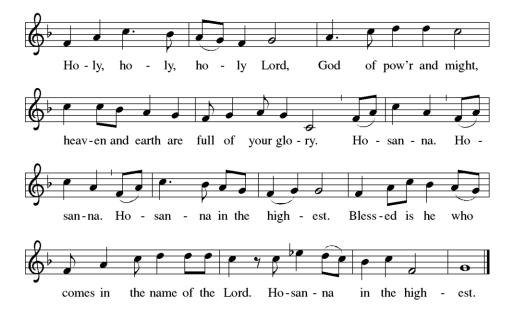
P- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Spoken Saturday, Sung Sunday)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P- Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert,

pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C- Amen

C- LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P- Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

C- COMMUNION SONG (Spoken Saturday, Sung Sunday)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

We welcome to the Lord's Table all visitors who are eligible to receive the Sacrament in their home congregation. Beginning with the lectern side of the church, please come down the center aisle, and take a glass as you come forward. Receive the bread from the pastor then the wine from the communion assistant, and return to your seat by the side aisle, placing your used glass in the tray at the side aisle. Children who do not yet receive communion and those who do not wish to receive, may come forward for a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

P- The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond

Amen.

The ministers commune either after or before others commune.

*TABLE BLESSING

The presiding minister may say a table blessing, and the assembly responds P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C- Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P- Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C- Amen.

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God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

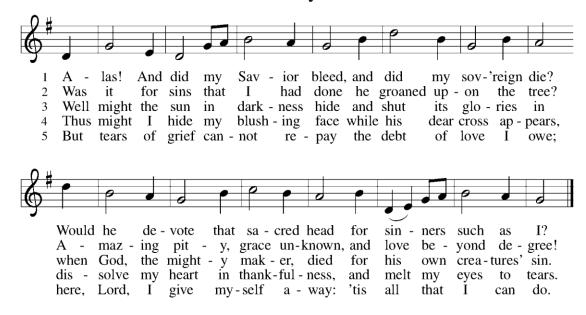
BLESSING

P- Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and + give you peace.

C- Amen.

SENDING SONG Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed (ELW 337) (Sunday only)

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

DISMISSAL

P- Go in peace. Share your bread.

C- Thanks be to God.

During the Lenten season there will be no postlude. Please use this time to reflect on your own Lenten journey.

QUIET REFLECTION

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Important Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Members with a change of address or visitors should complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors should also include the name and address of their home church so your home church can be notified that you received communion.

Prayer Requests – Please email or call the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. You may give names to the person leading service prior to start of service.

Pastoral Coverage –Please call Linda in the Church Office with your request.

Reminder: Hospital visits -The church is NOT informed when someone is in the hospital by the hospital. The person hospitalized or a family member must call the church to let us know they want a pastoral visit. If leaving a message on the answering machine, please remember to leave the hospital name and the room number. Some hospitals will not give the room number to a visitor, expecting you to know that.

Attendance for February 25, 2023 34 in person, no live stream posted.

Sponsoring bulletins and flowers is a great way to honor a special event in your loved ones' lives or to remember a loved one who has died. (Please only two vases of flowers per week.) Flowers are now \$15.00 a vase. **Flower prices are increasing to \$17.50 a vase starting April 1st.** If flowers are not sponsored, this is an added cost to the church. **The charts are on the bulletin board for 2024**. There are many empty spaces on the charts.

There will not be mid-week Lenten services at the church this year. You are invited to attend these services at St. Paul's UCC at 7 pm.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Palm Sunday, March 24 at 2:00 pm in the fellowship hall for children up to and including those in grade 6. Advance registration is requested by March 17. To register your child(ren) sign sheet on bulletin board in back of church or email Reba at lewell@verizon.net or text or call 570-527-5116. Please leave child's name and age.

Egg Hunt Donations – Filled plastic eggs will be appreciated for the children's Egg Hunt on March 24. Please bring egg donations to the church by March 17 and place on table in the back of the fellowship hall. To sign up your donation, please sign sheet on bulletin board in back of the church or email Reba at llewell@verizon.net or text or call 570-527-5116. Thank you in advance for your donation.

We will be assembling health kids for Lutheran World Relief again this year during the Lenten Season. Please see the insert placed in bulletins starting Ash Wednesday, February 14 for details.

Social Ministry Committee will be having a meeting on Sunday, March 10th after the church service.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 2- 5 pm spoken service

March 3-8 am and 10:30 am services

March 10th- deadline for Easter Flowers

March 10- Social Ministry Meeting after service

March 17- deadline for registration for egg hunt.

March 24- Palm Sunday service

March 24- Egg hunt

March 28- Maundy Thursday

March 29- Good Friday

March 31- Easter service

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FROM LAST WEEK:

Total Received	\$1123.78
Lenten Offering	\$34.00
Plate Offering	\$6.00
Capital Building Fund	\$43.00
Current	\$851.28
Local Benevolence	\$156.50
Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$33.00

"THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

<u>Today:</u> 10:30 am Worship Service <u>Monday:</u> 10 am Prayer Shawl <u>Thursday:</u> 6 pm Bell Choir

Next Sunday: 10:30 am Worship Service

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 84; 1 Kings 6:1-4, 21-22; 1 Corinthians 3:10-23 Tues: Psalm 84; 2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19; Hebrews 9:23-28

Wed: Psalm 84; Ezra 6:1-16; Mark 11:15-19

Thu: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Genesis 9:8-17; Ephesians 1:3-6 Fri: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Daniel 12:5-13; Ephesians 1:7-14 Sat: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Numbers 20:22-29; John 3:1-13

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: 8 am Eva Waldman 10:30 am Grayson Rollman

Acolyte: 10:30 am Grayson Rollman

Lector: 8 am Marlene Troxell 10:30 am Michael Ziegler Ushers: 8 am Mike Troxell 10:30 am Donald Mairose

Counting Team: Holly Maldonado, Jennie Raudenbush

Council Greeter: 5 pm Becky Mairose

8 am Jennie Raudenbush 10:30 am Brian Staller Communion Assistants: 5 pm Becky Mairose 8 am Jennie Raudenbush 10:30 am Brian Staller

Church Office Hours: 9 am - 3pm Monday - Friday

Office closed for lunch 12 pm until 12:30 pm Church Telephone 570-754-7350

www.SummerHillLutheran.org – Church's website Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

Student Loan Committee email:

stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor 716-353-1610

Email: stpaulsummerhill.pastor@gmail.com

Matthew Hayes, Director of Music 484-794-7902

Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com

Linda Angstadt, Church Secretary 570-754-7350

Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com

Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton 570-345-1279 Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton 570-754-7350 Eva Waldman, Treasurer 570-754-7350



Keep in your prayers: Charles Hawk, Sr., Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley Moyer, Helen Runkle, Adam Brink, Arlene Moyer, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch,

Jr., Dianna Curry, Rosemary Meade, Ray Yeich, David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Stacey Rao, John and Betty Strauch, Nancy Vargas, Jerry Heffleger, Kathy Robinson, Brian Hunsberger, Randy Ney, Donovan Baker, Kyle Cleary. Peggy Davis, Harry Russell, Carol Beenick, Brittany & Joshua Gallagher, Shawnette Keller, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast. Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast.