

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Fifth Sunday in Lent - March 17, 2024
8:30 am Service is live, 11:00 am is live, live-streamed, and recorded
Holy Communion, Setting One

Hymns will be found in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book.

Prelude - *An Wasserflüssen Babylon (ELW 340) by J.S. Bach*

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P 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 Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

C Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

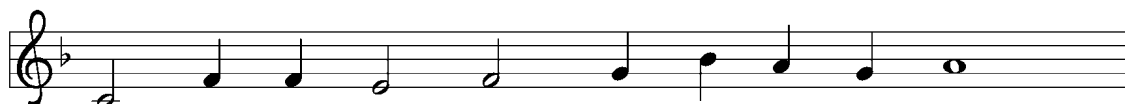
C Amen.



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003
 Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551
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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.

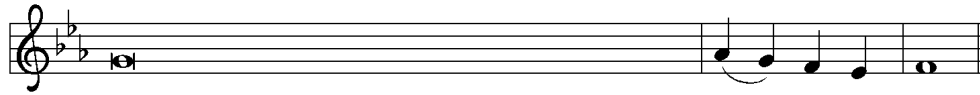
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



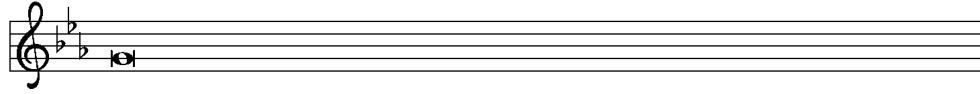
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



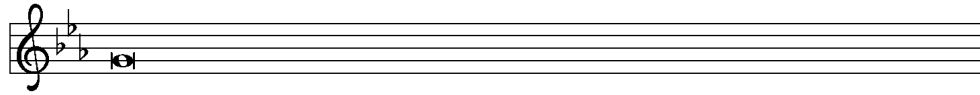
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



A - men, a - men.

Canticle of Praise – All Glory be to God on high (on insert) (from Setting Five)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you**

P Let us pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 51:1-12

Congregation sings Refrain and bold verses

Refrain

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God.

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through | from my wickedness, and cleanse me | from my sin.**

³For I know | my offenses, and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment. Refrain**

⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my | mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸**Let me hear | joy and gladness; that the body you have broken | may rejoice. Refrain**

⁹Hide your face | from my sins, and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean | heart, O God, and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence, and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**

Refrain

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent

submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel Acclamation (*during Lent*)

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

After the Gospel is announced, the people say: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 12:20-33

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

After the Gospel is read, the people say: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Sermon



1 A lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth to save a world of sin - ners.
 2 This lamb is Christ, our great - est friend, the Lamb of God, our Sav - ior,
 3 Our Sav - ior an - swered from his heart that he would take the bur - den:
 4 Of death I am no more a - fraid; your dy - ing is my liv - ing.



He bears the bur - den all a - lone, dies shorn of all his hon - ors.
 whom God in mer - cy chose to send to win us reb - els o - ver.
 "My Fa - ther's will is my com - mand; I'll do as I am bid - den."
 You clothe me in your roy - al robes that you are al - ways giv - ing.



He goes to slaugh - ter, weak and faint, is led to die with -
 "Go down, my child," the Fa - ther said, "and free my chil - dren
 Oh, won - drous love! Oh, lov - ing might! To right what mor - tals
 Your love is dress e - nough for me to wear through all e -



out com - plaint; his spot - less life he of - fers. He bears the shame,
 from their dread of death and con - dem - na - tion. The pain - ful stripes
 can - not right the Son was sent from heav - en. What love, O Love,
 ter - ni - ty be - fore the throne of heav - en, where we shall stand



the stripes, the wrath; his an - guish, mock - er - y,
 are hard to bear, but by your death they all
 who came to save by lov - ing e - ven to
 close by your side, your church, the well - ap - point -



and death for us he glad - ly suf - fers.
 can share the joy of your sal - va - tion."
 the grave un - til the stone was riv - en.
 ed bride, when all the faith - ful gath - er.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON, Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553
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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.

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.

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children (*organizations may be named*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation (*specific ministries may be named*). Move us to reach out to any who are

homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill (*especially*), Barbara, Jan, Janet, Joyce, Phyllis and Larry, Bob and Ellie, Mary, John, Tom, Doug, Alice, Charlie, Pat, Karl and Otti, Larry, Karen, Anna, Deb, Fran, Pat, Bill, Joan, and others we may name aloud or quietly in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us (*especially Patrick, missionary to Ireland, whom we commemorate today*). Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

MEAL

Offering

Offertory - *Verset by Leon Boellmann, guest organist Dane Golembesky (8:30); O Christ, Thou Lamb of God by Johann Nepomunk David (11:00)*

Offertory - Create in Me a Clean Heart



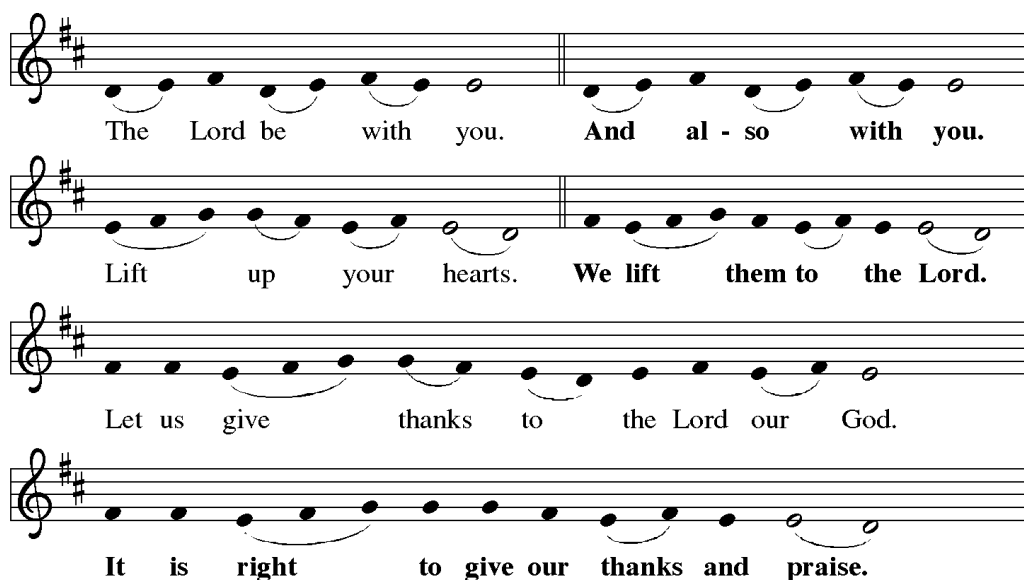
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER *(during the season of Lent)*

Let us pray together

**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. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

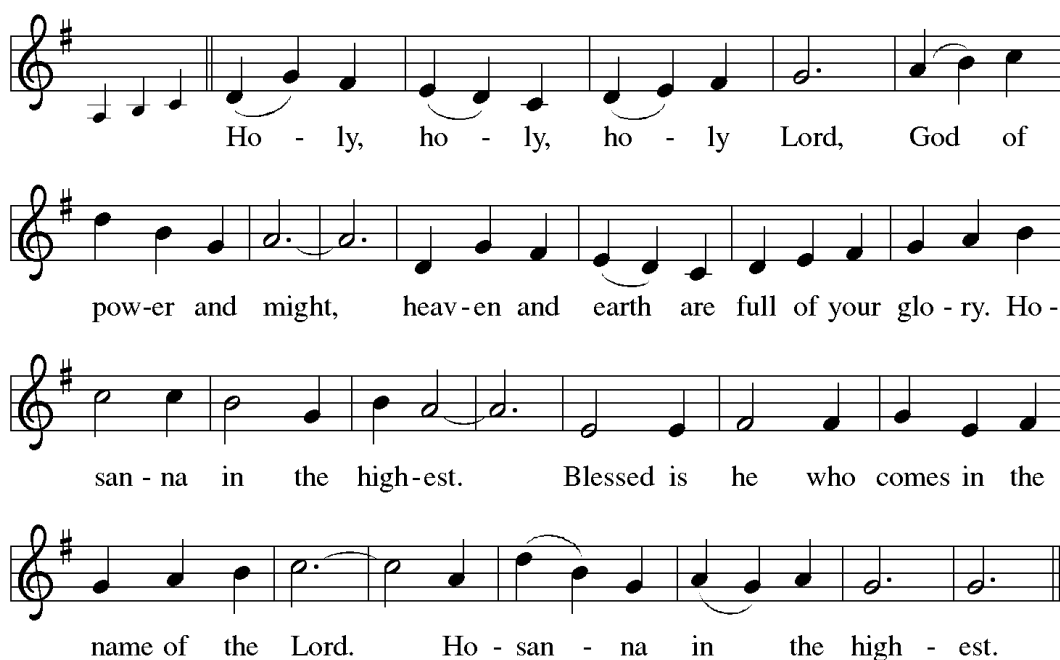
Preface

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
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 death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.
 Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.**

P Come to the banquet for all is ready.

COMMUNION SONG – LAMB OF GOD

The image shows four staves of musical notation in treble clef, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "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." The music consists of a single melodic line on a five-line staff.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

And each person may respond Amen.

Communion Hymn – Now We Join in Celebration

462

Now We Join in Celebration



- 1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
- 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
- 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' - n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990

Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray.

A God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
 Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **We will. Thanks be to God.**

Postlude - *Movement 1 from Organ Sonata no. 1 by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy*

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The Altar Flowers are not placed during the season of Lent.

Altar Flowers – If you would like to make a recognition through a request for Altar Flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium. Sign up for the day(s) you would like to request, pick up an envelope and form in the lower box and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin, and payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, speak with a staff person.

Prayer of the Church (Members): Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Phyllis and Larry Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Mary Bader, John Friedrich, Tom Kraska, Doug Whitfield, Alice Barnes, Charlie Bock, Pat Casper, Karl and Otti Freundt, Larry Grovenstein, Karen Shoaf (on deployment in Iraq), Anna Snyder, Deb Tabert, Fran Whitfield, Pat Cashwell, Bill Dahl, Joan Albright

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time**, email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews and Robert Meissner [Tony Perrotte’s mother and uncle], Diane Johnson (Penni Perrotte’s friends), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Linda Leslie (mother of Sean Slane), Paul DeVries (brother of Bob DeVries), Gini Rinkus (friend of the Dominicks), Elaine Williamson (sister-in-law of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Paul (son-in-law of Jan Huntley), Richard Dominick (brother of Ted Dominick), Burr Hasselbeck, Josephine Economy and John Bigsby (friends of Bess Line), Ruth Parker (aunt of Pat Casper), Ashley Collins (niece of Deb Tabert), Holly Cashwell (by Pat Cashwell), Patrick Howell (son of a friend of the Waughs), George and Pat Rose (friends of Debbie Fullbright), John and Connie Heinz, Gregory and Colleen Davidson, Richard and Claudia Steele (friends of Dean and Marcia Redman), Kirk Temple (brother-in-law of Deb Tabert), Debra Jetton (sister of Bill Wilson), Penny Wagner (niece of Marcia Wilson), Lynn Hladak (grandmother to Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Cole Cashwell (grandson of Pat Cashwell), Twila Dahl (sister-in-law of Bill Dahl and Martha Dahl), Dirk Davis (by Debbie Fullbright), Lynn and Ray Slabaugh (friends of the Foremans), Dirk Davis (by Debbie Fullbright), Scott Duncan (stepdad of Bill Elkin), Lindsay Marchell-Holman (family of Deb Tabert), Dave and Missy Pepper (brother and family of Joan Pepper), Chuck Johnson and family (husband and family of Leslie Johnson), Keith and Vernice Knudsen (father and mother of Ken Knudsen), Sara (sister of Marlene Coulter), Olga Nikitin (by Patrick Chappel), Joan Mayfield (aunt of Pat Casper), Vera Wiggins and Tony Jeeter (by Amy Elkin)

Adult Sunday School classes February 11 through Mar 24, will be led by Vicar Gina – a 7-part session about Ash Wednesday to Holy Week. Each week we will prepare for the Wednesday evening Worship Services through Holy Week.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: The topic for Thursday’s Bible Study is the Gospel according to Mark. They meet on Thursdays at 10:30-11:45 am in the Conference Room and by Zoom. Study notes will be emailed before the meeting. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82845097165?pwd=YWEyd1o1TmQvTXVPaFJwYi9SZkFVQT09>
Meeting ID: 828 4509 7165 Passcode: 165276

Dear Congregation members:

At the end of last year and the beginning of 2024 we had significant expenses for Heating and Air Conditioning issues. We needed a new compressor in the sanctuary, a new heat and cooling control system with new baffles in the office wing of the newer portion of the building and an inline heat exchanger in the major unit in Trinity Hall. The total expense was slightly over \$40,000. Thanks to a grant and a gift from the DeVries family \$27,000 was given toward these expenses. The final \$13,500 is now due. We will take this from Capital Reserves unless we receive other donations toward the expense. If you'd like to make a contribution please mark it for HVAC expenses.

Thank you for any help you can give.

Pastor Scott

Easter Breakfast will take place on **Sunday, March 31 at 9:30-10:30 am** in Trinity Hall. The menu is Pancakes (gluten free, plain, and chocolate chip), scrambled eggs, sausage patties, biscuits, fruit. If you can help with cooking, serving, or clean up, please let Susan Esposito know. Emails will be sent out as well this week and you can respond to those.

- Cooking will begin about 8:00-8:15 am.
- Setting up help will be needed by 9:00 am.
- Clean up will begin about 10:15 am.

There are two worship services on Easter Sunday – 8:30 am and 11:00 am with the breakfast at 9:30-10:30 am and the Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15 am. Children should bring a basket to hunt eggs. Anyone want to help with the Easter Egg Hunt?

Wednesdays during Lent – Mar 20

- **12:00 pm Holy Communion and Healing Service in the sanctuary**
- **6:00 pm Suppers in Trinity Hall**
- **7:00 pm Lenten Worship**

If you wish to help with the meals, please contact Martha Dahl. She could use assistance in cleaning up. **This Wednesday the menu includes Fish sticks with a variety of sides.** Vicar Gina Schaefer is in charge of our Wednesday Lenten Worship. This year, we will pray and reflect on the spiritual disciplines. We will hear a word of meditation from people who participate in the ministry of St. Paul's. Vicar Gina will also be leading a workshop during the Sunday School hour every week that will go deeper into the spiritual disciplines. Here is the Vimeo Link for the 7 pm service: <https://vimeo.com/event/4073534>

Stations of the Cross – Pastor Lorrel Strom-Jensen

Lent begins the second week of February and Stations of the Cross are again offered on Fridays at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. I hope that long-time members are looking forward to seeing St. Paul's beautiful collection of the Stations artwork as they will be back up on the side walls of the Sanctuary for the Lenten season. For those who are new, the Stations follow Jesus from Gethsemane to the tomb with visual depictions of his journey. On Fridays, you can join me to follow Jesus on this path with scripture and prayers that tell the Holy Week story. Following Jesus on this path offers pause for us to contemplate our own lives, in our time and place. Please join me for our last Friday at noon on **Mar 22.**

Lent is a season where we are invited to lean into God. Lent reminds us that we are able to intentionally choose to do things that draw us closer to God. It's also a time to look into ourselves and find what is getting in the way of a deeper relationship with God. With that in mind, during Lent at St. Paul's, Pastor Jan will be offering a one hour Centering Prayer Group each Tuesday beginning at 1:00 pm in the library. Please consider adding this prayer time to your Lenten discipline practice and see where God is moving in your life.

Clothing Donations! It is that time again to do some Spring Cleaning and why not donate any of those clothes you no longer need or want? Between **March 1-31**, there will be labeled boxes available in the atrium by the conference room to drop off clothes. Each week Megan Cunningham will collect and take them to the local Durham Rescue Mission. Whatever clothes don't sell in their thrift stores go directly to the men's, women's and children's shelters. Any questions, please reach out directly to Megan at mcunni16@gmail.com.

FREE to a Good Home Table – We have set up a table in the hallway on the way to the elevator and I am calling it the "**free to a good home table.**" If you own an item on the table, you have two weeks to claim it. If you'd like an item on the table, you also have two weeks to claim it. If an item is not claimed in two weeks, it will be removed from the church. We will donate or trash it. Thanks for your help in cleaning up our congregational home.

St. Paul's Readers Meet on Thursday, March 21 at 3 pm

Please join us in Trinity Hall on Thursday, March 21 at 3 pm as we delve into our latest selection, *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*, by James McBride. Lorrel Strom-Jensen is leading our group discussion. Our meetings are held in Trinity Hall on the third Thursday of most months at 3 pm. It is an informal gathering to talk about our book for the month, led by a facilitator. We try to select books from different genres to stretch our horizons, as well as to appeal to a wide range of people. Please consider joining us in March or for another of our meetings. We welcome you (men and women) to come and check us out, even if you have not read the book. If you have never taken part in a book club before, we are tailor-made for you! For questions or more information, please contact Katherine Trexler katherine.m.trexler@gmail.com.

The Durham CROP Hunger Walk is celebrating 50 years of walking to end hunger in our community and around the world! Join the St. Paul's Lutheran Church Durham team and others on **Sunday, Mar 24** at Duke Chapel. Pre-walk festivities start at 1:30 pm (registration, music, greetings, and Global Village Activities) and step off starts at 2:30 pm. The walk is about 4.5 miles. You can join the team or make a donation here: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/st-pauls-lutheran-church-of-durham> If you have questions or need assistance please reach out to Joan Pepper at irisdragonfly45@yahoo.com.

UMD (Urban Ministries Durham) Food Prep! We will volunteer our services on the third Saturday of each month, 11:30 am-1:30 pm. Next date is **April 20, 2024**. During the shift, you will prep for the dinner meal and serve lunch. Sign up online at this site: http://bit.ly/UMD_Signup Volunteers must be 13 years old, must wear closed toed shoes and shirts that cover armpits. Hairnets and aprons are provided – you can bring a hat and apron as well. Urban Ministries is located at 410 Liberty St, Durham NC 27701. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Anderson at andersona1129@gmail.com

The **Dropped Stitch Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets on the last Friday of the month at 1:00 pm in the sofa area of the atrium. This group creates prayer shawls by knitting or crochet.

The **Tongue and Thimble** group creates small quilts which are distributed to nurseries at local hospitals for their critical patients. They meet downstairs in the Fiber Arts/Music room off of the Genesis Hall on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am-12:00 noon.

The Youth and leadership who are traveling to New Orleans in July for the ELCA National Youth Gathering, have discovered some additional items we need to purchase before the trip: 48 t-shirts with our printed logo, clear backpacks, water bottles, buttons to trade, and shuttles to and from the airport and hotel. We estimate the extra cost to be \$3,500. Donations would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped in the offering plate or finance drop box in the hallway, noting Youth Gathering. Many thanks!

Growing thru Grief

The spring "Introduction to Grief" series begins on March 5 and will be led by Aaron Klink. He noted, "There is no single "right way" to grieve. People respond to loss in different and varied ways. In *The Five Ways We Grieve*, therapist Susan Berger proposes five different responses to loss, each with strengths and weaknesses that help and hinder our ability to move toward healing and wholeness. This Spring's Grief 101 will explore five different approaches we can take toward grief. It will also explore the strengths and weaknesses of the different approaches, and what each of them says."

- Mar 19: The Memorialist
- Mar 26: The Normalizer
- Apr 2: The Activist
- Apr 9: The Seeker about our need for meaning and wholeness

Aaron Klink is Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator at Pruitt Hospice in Durham. He holds a B.A. in Religion from Emory University, an M.A.R. in Systematic Theology from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, and M.Div from Yale Divinity School, and a Th.M. from Duke Divinity School where he was Westbrook Fellow at the Duke Institute for Care at the End of Life. He has worked as a chaplain, congregational pastor and bereavement coordinator with people experiencing loss for two decades. He continues to write and speak on end-of-life issues, grief, and medical ethics at gatherings across the United States. Please contact admin@growingthrugrief.org if you have questions.

PASTA for PARKTOWN!!

Help Stock the St. Paul's Shelf at Parktown Food Hub!

The folks at Parktown Food Hub really appreciate our St. Paul's pasta! THANKS to your generosity the "St. Paul's Dry Boxed Pasta Shelf" stays well stocked and ready to help hungry families, especially during the upcoming Spring Break period. Please continue to add dry pasta to your shopping list to share with the St. Paul's shelf. The Women's Connection Group is leading this initiative to support the Parktown Food Hub, led by Pastor Sharon Schulze.

Sign-Up Genius Links

Please visit the Sign-Up Genius links which we use to enable volunteers to fill in where needed, for both services. Click on the link and fill in your name on the date(s).

◆ **Sunday Worship** – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1>

Sign up for: lector, worship assistant, altar guild, communion assistants, and ushers. Staff will be glad to provide guidance for any of these tasks.

◆ **Devotions** – <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-daily1>

Send your devotions to Vicar Gina Schaefer - vicar@stpaulsdurham.org